York Town Crier, Dec 23, 1982

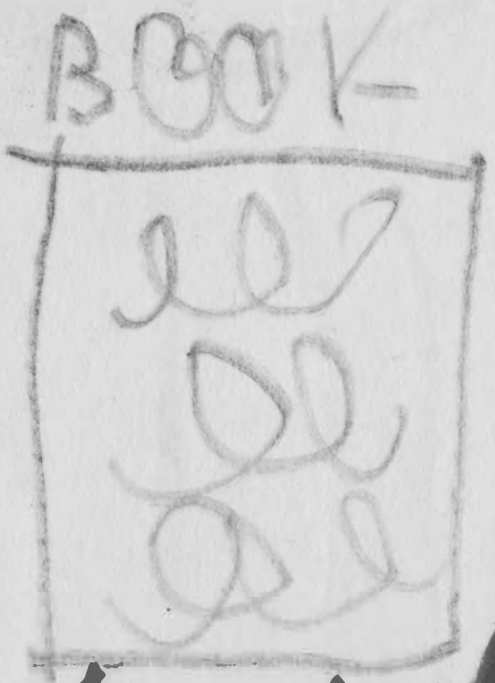
Library design gets board OK

York County supervisors approved this exterior design last week for the county's new library to be built on Route 17 near Harrod Lane. The one-story, brick colonial design was one of two choices offered by the architectural firm of Caro, Monroe and Liang. The building will have an arched entranceway and clerestories -- raised roof sections with windows for lighting and ventilation. Architects estimate the final design work should be finished in about three months and construction could begin next spring. With a construction schedule of about 12 months, the new library could be in use by the spring of 1984.

Thank-you
for our visit
to the Library
and our valentines.

Bethel Nursery
School

2-28-84



FRAN

NEWS from YORK COUNTY INFORMATION OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

5-9-83

CONTACT: Barbara Darnell
898-0204

YORKTOWN--York County Library found two winners in its "Find the Answer" contest during National Library Week, April 18-23. Prizes were awarded May 9 by Friends of the Library to Virginia Gabriele, Link Road, in the adult division, and to her son Marc in the children's division.

"Both winners had a perfect paper," says Librarian Beverly Dudley, who supervised the contest.

Thirty questions faced children who entered the contest and 50 questions were posed to adults. The answers to all questions could be found in the library.

Children's questions included "What was the name of Mercury's winged staff and who uses it as a symbol today?" and "What is the colored part of the human eye called?" (Answers: Caduceus, or Kerykeion, which is a symbol for doctors and the medical profession; the colored part of the eye is the iris.)

Adult questions included "What was the occupation of St. Mamas who was martyred at Caesarea in Cappadocia?" and, "The first parking meter was installed in what U. S. City?" (Answers: Shepherd; Oklahoma City.)

Second and third place winners in the adult division were: Cheryl Layman, Baldric Place, and Mrs. Allan W. Finger, Wormley Creek. Children's second and third place winners were Lisa and Alan Sadler, children of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Sadler; and Laura Eldred, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Eldred.

(end)

YORK TOWN C



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

Happiness is a book

Or magazine, as the case may be. Julie Kauffman of Gloucester found National Geographics among the used books at the semi-annual sale Saturday sponsored by the Friends of the York County Public Library.

BEVERLY DUDLEY spent the week of June 12-17 participating in a Public Library Directors Development Program sponsored by the Virginia State Library. The program, held at the Roslyn Conference Center in Richmond, was limited to selected professional librarians from public libraries with a staff of 20 or fewer.

TRY YOUR HAND

The entire Library staff spent some interesting time making up questions for the National Library Week Quiz Contest, which is running from April 18-30. The Friends of the Library are offering gift certificate prizes for the greatest number of correct answers. There are two categories: a 30-question quiz for children through eighth grade, and a 50-question quiz for everyone else. Come to the Library and try your luck. If you don't know the answers, they can be found in the Library's reference section.

Library Week contest

GRAFTON – The Friends of the York County Library will sponsor a "Find the Answers" contest at the library during National Library Week, April 18-23.

Contest sheets for children through eighth grade will have 30 questions: the questionnaire for older children and adults will have 50 questions. Answers to all the questions can be found in the reference section in the library. No staff assistance will be given. Prizes will be awarded for the highest number of correct answers in each contest, with a drawing being held in case of ties.

The prizes, donated by the Friends, will be certificates for books at the Heritage Square Book 'n' Card Shop. For adults, the certificates will be valued at $15, $10 and $5. Children's gift certificates will be for $10, $5 and $3.

Questionnaire sheets can be picked up at the library after 10am Monday, April 18, and must be turned in to the library before it closes at 2pm Saturday, April 23. Winners will be notified by phone, and their names will be posted in the library Thursday, April 28.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

Library quiz winners Marc Gabriele, left, and mother Ginny Gabriele.

Trivia quiz winners announced

YORKTOWN – The York County Public Library found two winners in its "Find the Answer" contest during National Library Week, April 18-23. Prizes were awarded Monday by the Friends of the Library to **Virginia Gabriele** of Link Road in the adult division, and to her son **Marc** in the children's division.

"Both winners had a perfect paper," says librarian Beverly Dudley, who supervised the contest.

Thirty questions faced children who entered the contest, and 50 questions were posed to adults. The answers to all the questions could be found in the library.

Children's questions included "What was the name of Mercury's winged staff and who uses it as a symbol today?" and "What is the colored part of the human eye called?" (Answers: caduceus or kerykeion, which is a symbol for doctors and the medical profession; the colored part of the eye is the iris.)

Adult questions included "What was the occupation of St. Mamas, who was martyred at Caesaria in Cappadocia?" and "The first parking meter was installed in what U.S. city?" (Answers: shepherd; Oklahoma City.)

Second- and third-place winners in the adult division were **Cheryl Layman**, Baldric Place, and **Mrs. Allan W. Finger**, Wormley Creek. Children's second- and third-place winners were **Lisa and Alan Sadler**, children of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Sadler; and **Laura Eldred**, daughter of mr. and Mrs. Charles Eldred.

Daily Press, Wednesday, April 20, 198

Quiz Contest

YORK -- The York County Public Library is holding a "Find the Answers" quiz contest as part of National Library Week. Quizzes will contain questions which can be answered using reference books at the library.

Gift certificates for books will be given to the winners.

There will be two categories, one for students in the eighth grade or younger and a second for older students and adults.

The contest closes April 30.

1983

YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUMMER PROGRAM

BIGFOOT READING CLUB:

Any child who was in grades 1-6 this past school year is invited to join the "Bigfoot" Reading Club which begins June 20 and ends August 10. Books reported on must have been read after the close of school, and must have come from the library's collection. No preregistration is necessary.

A "Bigfoot" card will be kept at the library for each child. For every 4 books read and reported on, a sticker is added to the Bigfoot poster. Also, for each 4 books read, a coupon good for 1 regular order of French fries at the Heritage Square McDonald's will be awarded, up to a limit of 4 coupons. A special feature this year is the awarding of 1 free movie pass for reading 16 books (1 pass only).

A final event of the Reading Club will be a party for all club members on Friday, August 12 at 1:30. Those children who have read 20 or more books are eligible for a drawing of special prizes.

SUMMER MOVIETIME:

Movies appropriate for elementary age children will be shown each Tuesday and Wednesday, beginning June 21 and ending August 10. Movietime on Tuesdays is at 2:00 and on Wednesdays at 10:00 (the same movies are scheduled for both days). The movies are scheduled to last from 45 minutes to an hour, approximately. Preschoolers are welcome at the movies, but must be accompanied by an adult.

** CHILDREN OF ALL AGES: Come to the library and ask about the "Summer Grab Bag."

PRE-SCHOOL STORY HOUR:

There will not be a children's story hour during the summer. Story hour will resume after school begins in the fall.

REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Bigfoot reads at library

5/26/83

How about a real reading incentive to keep the children in practice for next school year?

The Bigfoot Reading Club at the York County library in Grafton will begin June 20 and end Aug. 10. Children in grades 1-6 are invited to join.

A "Bigfoot" card will be kept for each child to record the library books read throughout the summer. For every four books read, a sticker is added to the card, and a coupon for an order of French fries at the Heritage Square MacDonald's will be awarded. A special feature this year will be a free movie pass for reading 16 books.

The final event of the reading club will be a party Friday, Aug. 12, 1:30pm, at which children who have read 20 or more books will be eligible for special prizes in a drawing.

Regular library hours are 10am-9pm weekdays and 10am-3pm Saturdays.

SUMMER MOVIETIME

Movies for children will be shown at the York County library each Tuesday and Wednesday from June 21 to Aug. 10. The films will be presented at 2pm Tuesdays and repeated at 10am Wednesdays.

The movies are scheduled to last about an hour. Pre-schoolers are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

Summer Programs for Children STAFF STUFF

6/30/83

This week marks the beginning of the busiest time of year at the Library, with the beginning of the summer programs for children. The Bigfoot Reading Club, for children in Grades 1-6, twice-weekly movies, and activity sheets for children of all ages, with grab-bag prizes, are keeping the staff busy. MYRA BAYTOP, last year's summer CETA employee, is back this year to lend a helping hand.

Yorktown Crier, Aug. 11, 1983

Local libraries plan parties for summer reading clubs

GRAFTON – The Friends of the York County Public Library will sponsor a party for children who joined the library's Bigfoot Reading Club June 20.

The party will be at the library Friday, Aug. 12, at 1:30pm. Pixie the Clown will perform magic, refreshments will be served and drawings will be held for door prizes.

Any child who has read a book and reported on it is eligible to attend the party.

Bigfoot may show up sometime during the festivities.

The library, in Grafton Shopping Center, is open weekdays from 10am to 9pm and Saturdays 10am to 2pm.

Sponsors of the reading club hope to be in the new library scheduled for construction at Route 17 and Harrod Lane in time for next summer's program.

8/18/83

York library party

GRAFTON – The York County Public Library was filled to overflowing Friday as about 65 children, along with a number of mothers and little brothers and sisters, celebrated the conclusion of the summer reading program.

Pixie the Magician entertained with jokes and tricks, and then prizes were awarded. A total of 185 children had the joined the reading club, which this year had "Bigfoot" as a theme.

Winners of special prizes were drawn from the names of the 71 club members who had read and reported on 20 books or more. Todd Wirt and Megan Allen were the lucky winners of tickets to Busch Gardens, and Brian Jones won a large, stuffed Loch Ness monster. A door prize was won by Chris Davis.

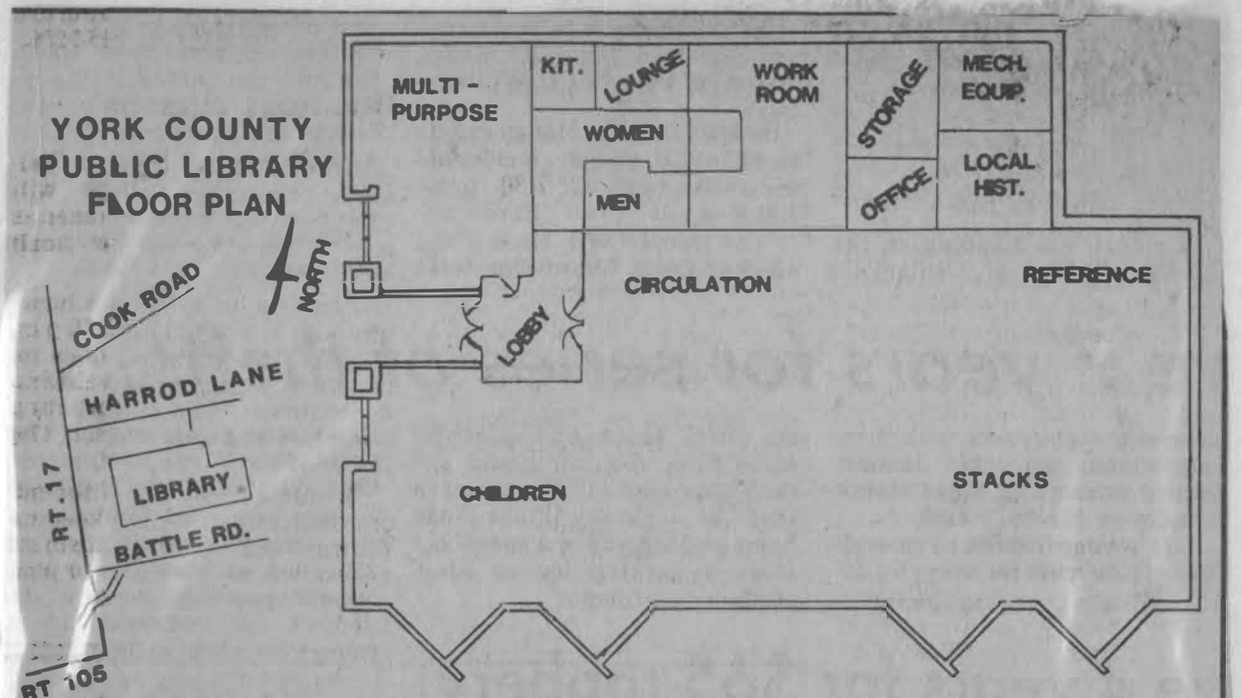
Members of the Friends of the Library served refreshments, and each child was given a large "Bigfoot footprint" cookie to take home.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

Making friends

David Brooks makes friends with Pixie the magician's friend Ralph Rabbit at York County Public Library's party last Friday afternoon celebrating the end of the summer reading program. Pixie performed in Poquoson, too, on Monday afternoon at a Poquoson Public Library party honoring children participating in its summer reading program. For details on both celebrations, see page 5.



Funding sought for new library

YORK — Plans for the new county library have been completed and plans are being made for bidding the construction contracts.

County officials are looking into the possibility of getting state money to help finance construction of the $900,000 project. Fred Whitley, county engineer, said the county should know by the middle of August if the state money will be available.

How much money the county could receive from the state is unknown, Whitley said. Once the financing is complete, the county will advertise for bids and award the contracts.

Whitley estimated it could take 10 months for construction. If the winter brings prolonged bad weather, the library might not be ready until late 1984.

Plans call for a one-story, 11,500-square-foot brick building. Inside will be a public meeting room, work room, circulation area, reference area, stacks and local history room.

The new library will replace the cramped storefront library in the Grafton Shopping Center. The new building will be built at Route 17 and Harrod Lane.

Times-Herald 7/13/83

7/24/83

You're in the right place to find the

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY PROJECT NO. 82-01 YORK COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Sealed proposals will be received by the York County Board of Supervisors at the Office of Public Works and Utilities, 126 Ballard Street, Yorktown, Virginia, not later than 3:00 p.m., current local time, August 16, 1983, for furnishing all labor, materials, and equipment for the York County Public Library, Project No. 82-01, County of York, Virginia. All proposals

Advertisements For Bids—G

received shall be publicly opened and read aloud at 3:00 p.m., current local time, August 17, 1983.

The scope of the work includes construction of a one-story library building on U.S. Route 17, York County, Virginia. Site improvements include drives, parking, walks, sanitary and storm drainage and site utilities.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a Bidder's Bond or a Certified Check of Five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid made payable to Arlene Pollard, Treasurer, County of York. The successful bidder will be required to deliver to the County of York an executed Performance and Payment Bond in an amount at least equal to One Hundred Percent (100%) of the accepted bid.

Plans and specifications may be obtained at the office of Caro, Monroe and Liang, Architects, P.C., 10 San Jose Drive, Newport News, Virginia. A deposit of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00), payable to Caro, Monroe and Liang, Architects, P.C., by check only, will be required for bidders who wish to secure copies of the plans and specifications, which sum will be refunded to the bidder upon return of the plans and specifications in good condition within ten days (10) days after bid opening.

Proposals must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the County Administrator of the County of York, and marked with the project title and project number.

A contract completion time of 300 calendar days from date of Notice to Proceed will be strictly adhered to and liquidated damages in the amount of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) per day will be assessed if the work is not substantially completed within the specified contract time limits.

There will be a pre-bid conference on August 2, 1983, at 2:00 p.m. at the office of Public Works and Utilities, 126 Ballard Street, Yorktown, Virginia.

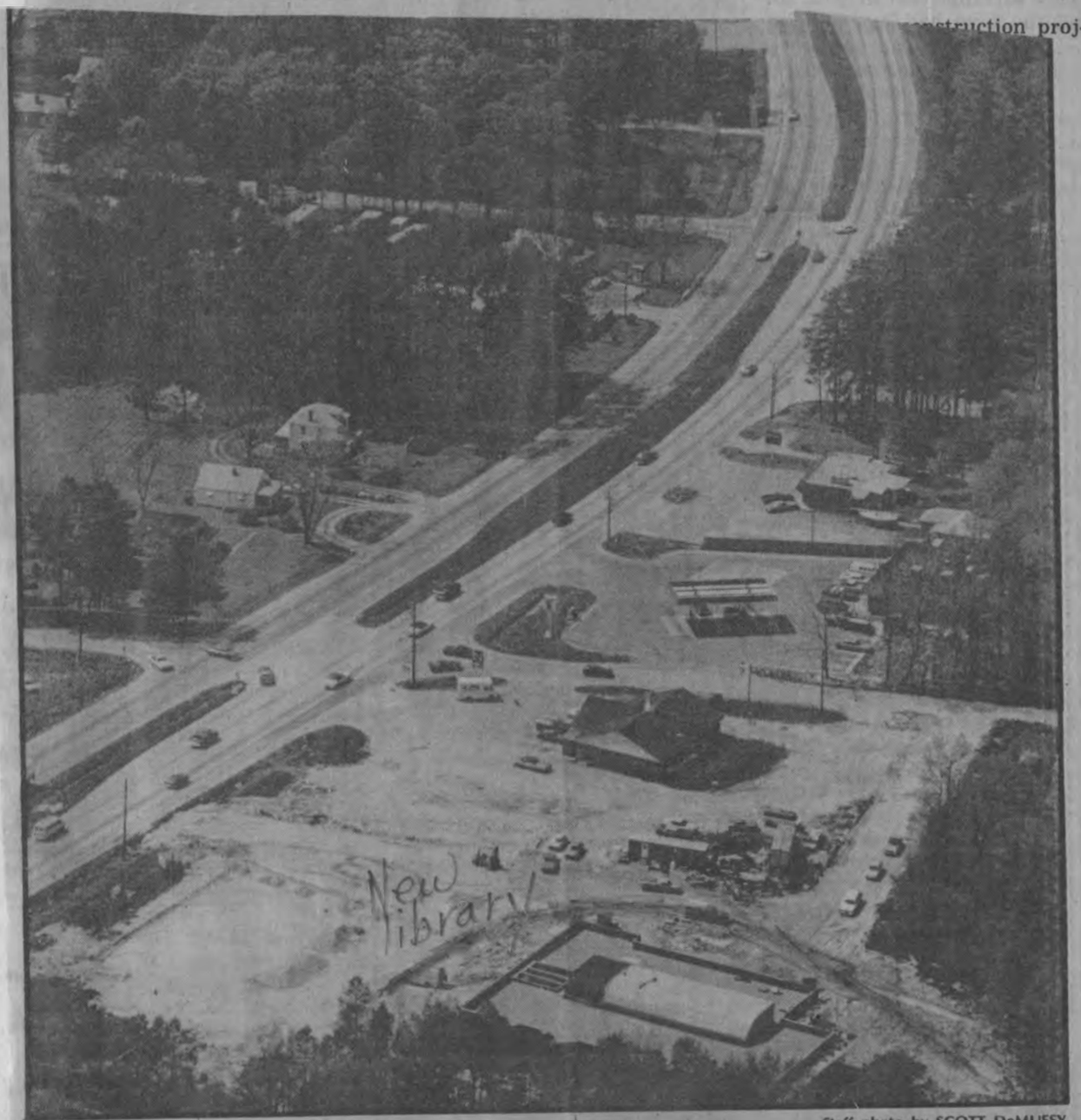
7-P-24-H-25 G

Route 17

Highway in York County undergoing a t

Daily Press
Sunday, May 6, 1984 — Page G1

...construction proj-



Staff photo by SCOTT DeMUESY

Aerial view of Route 17 shows a long strip of undeveloped land (top right) that borders the northbound lane of the highway.

Construction contract for new library OK'd

By RAY BETZNER
Staff Writer

YORK — Construction on the new York County Public Library was given the go-ahead Thursday by county supervisors.

A contract for $708,143 with Hudgins Construction Co. Inc. of Newport News was authorized by the supervisors.

County staff members said earlier in the day that construciton on the new library could begin next month.

Hudgins was the lowest of 12 bidders on the project and came closest to the $710,000 construciton estimate made by the county.

The 12,000-square-foot library will be built at Route 17 and Harrod's Lane. The land was donated to the county by the late Leslie R. O'Hara.

The building will have a brick exterior with an arched colonnade on its front. Two clerestories, roof additions that provide indirect sunlight, were planned but one was scrapped during the late planning stages.

The new library will replace the current library in a storefront at the Grafton Shopping Center. The new library will be about five times bigger than the current one.

The contractor will have 300 days to complete the library. Included in the contract will be two entrances, one each from Route 17 and Harrod's Lane.

County residents approved a $900,000 bond issue in November 1981 to pay for the construction, design and legal fees. A dispute over the library's location ensued, with some residents and supervisors pushing for sites closer to the county's population center, such as Grafton.

The O'Hara property was selected by a majority of board, but Supervisor H. Tabb Smith has remained rankled by the location. Smith was the only supervisor to vote against the library contract on Thursday.

In other business, supervisers put off picking which type of sewer lines should be built to serve a new housing development on Route 134 east of Tabb.

The supervisors could pick a $200,000 pump station, which would serve only the Newton Farm planned unit development, or a $300,000 gravity line, which would serve the development and new homes in the surrounding area.

The brunt of the cost of either plan would be paid by the developer and through connection fees.

Supervisors tabled the issue and said they wanted time to study the alternatives.

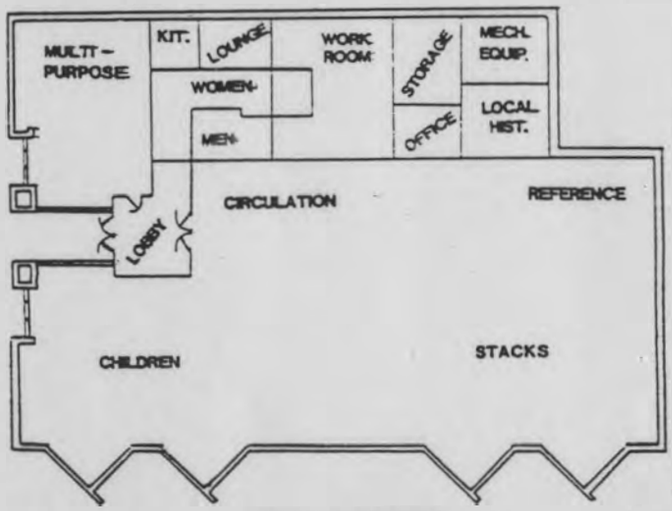
Library Gets Underway Soon

Final plans for the new library have been approved by the Library Design Management Team and a contract with Hudgins Construction Company was approved by the Board of Supervisors August 18. Groundbreaking is planned September 11 at the site and construction is expected to be complete in late 1984.

The plans feature a 1000 square foot multi-purpose community meeting room, a children's area, a reference area, 4200 square feet of book stacks, and local history room.

Clerestories, or windows which rise above the roof, will flood the reading and lending desk areas with natural light.

Architect for the project is Caro, Monroe and Liang, of Newport News. The building is expected to cost $700,000 plus furnishings, and was approved by voter referendum November 3, 1981.



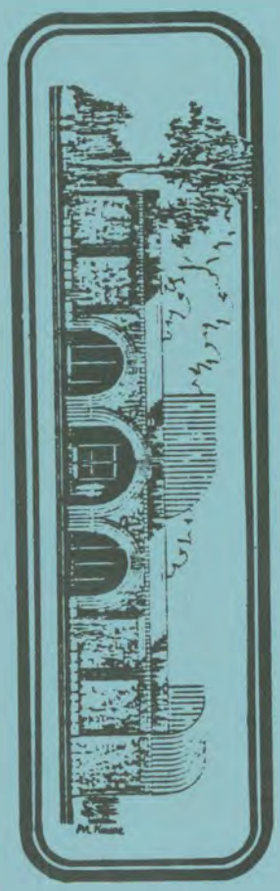
YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY FLOOR PLAN

GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY SEPT. 11, 1983





BEGINNING TO END



YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library ceremony Sept. 11

YORKTOWN – Construction of the new York County Public Library will get underway with a groundbreaking ceremony at the site on Route 17 and Harrod Lane Sept. 11 at 3pm. Construction is expected to be complete by mid-1984.

The county library board is sponsoring the groundbreaking ceremony. The board plans a grand-opening week with an open house for the community and special events each day when the construction is complete, according to Penny Nichols, board chairman.

A contract was awarded to Hudgins Construction Co. of Newport News on Aug. 18 for $708,000. Architects are Caro, Monroe and Liang of Newport News.

Citizens approved a $900,000 bond issue for the project in a 1981 referendum. The 4-acre site was donated to the county by the estate of L. R. O'Hara in May 1982.

Ground broken for York library

DAILY PRESS, Sept. 11, 1983

YORK — Ground clearing and construction for the county's new public library should begin early next week at the southeast corner of Route 17 and Harrod's Lane.

"A day a lot of us felt would never come" finally came Sunday, said Penny Nichols, chairman of the library's Board of Directors. She and E. S. "Buck" Bingley Jr., chairman of the Board of Supervisors, used a gold-painted shovel to nudge a divot of turf from the rock-hard ground at the library site in a groundbreaking ceremony.

Construction of the new library should be complete by July 1984, said Hugh H. Riley, vice president of Hudgins Construction Co. Inc., the firm doing the work. The library will cost $710,000,

The new library will have about 12,000 square feet of space, roughly five times the size of the existing library in the Grafton Shopping Center.

Citizens of the county approved a $900,000 general obligation bond referendum in November 1981 to finance the construction. Since then, construction has been tied up by squabbles over where the library should be built. The late Leslie R. O'Hara donated the land eventually chosen by the supervisors.

When completed, the new library will have entrances on both Route 17 and Harrod's Lane. The brick structure will feature an arched collonade in the front and a skylight. The building was designed by the architectural firm of Caro, Monroe & Liang.

Beverly Dudley, county librarian, noted at the groundbreaking that the county library started as a volunteer project in 1958 in a rented house across Route 17 from the existing library.

A few years later, the supervisors agreed to take over the library as a government project, and since the first year, circulation has increased from 5,000 volumes per year to 145,000 volumes last year, she said.

Story hour to be Wednesday

YORK — The weekly pre-school story hour will start at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday for children 3 to 5 years old in the York County Public Library in the Grafton Shopping Center.

No registration is necessary.

Presented by Mrs. Dudley at Groundbreaking Ceremony, Sept. 11,1983

History of the York County Public Library

Just 15 years ago, on September 7, 1968, the York County Public Library was formally opened. A result of great community effort, sponsored by the York County Volunteer Association, the library began operation in an old rented house on Route 17 in Grafton. Books, shelving, and furniture were donated, and many individuals and groups contributed their time and effort to collect and catalog books, and set up the shelves. Mrs. Nancy Deskins was in charge, with an all-volunteer staff.

When the original lease on the building ran out and funds were insufficient to continue, the Board of Supervisors was asked to assume housing the collection. They agreed to renew the lease for another year, and when the location proved unsuitable the County increased its financial support, and the library was moved across the road to a former post office building in the Grafton Shopping Center. The new location brought an immediate increase in patronage and circulation. By 1975 the library had outgrown its space, and an addition was built, nearly doubling the size of the facility. As the library's patronage continued to grow, so did County financial support. State Library support was added once our local income met their requirements.

As anyone who uses the library knows, we outgrew our space again a long time ago. After considerable discussion, agitation, petitioning, and pleading, it was decided to place a bond referendum on the ballot in November 1981. Possibly to the surprise of many, the referendum passed easily, and here we are finally at the beginning of the realization of a long held dream--a real library building for York County.

The growth of our library in fifteen years has been rapid and steady. Our total book circulation in the first year of operation was less than 5,000. By 1975 circulation had reached over 41,000. In 1978 it was over 71,000. In the next 5 years it more than doubled, to over 146,000 in 1982. Our collection of books

has grown to more than 27,000, and in addition we have several thousand uncataloged paperbacks on loan, a large number of tape cassettes, and a growing collection of video games. Our children's programs include a reading incentive program every summer, with movies during the summer and Christmas holidays, and a preschool story hour during the school year. We have a small library collection at the jail, consisting of paperback books and magazines, administered by deputy Sherry Leonard. Three years ago we introduced a new checkout program, using plastic membership cards and a date stamping machine. Since that time we have issued more than 10,000 membership cards, and continue to sign up about 200 members each month. Our staff now includes 2 full-time and 6 part-time very busy employees.

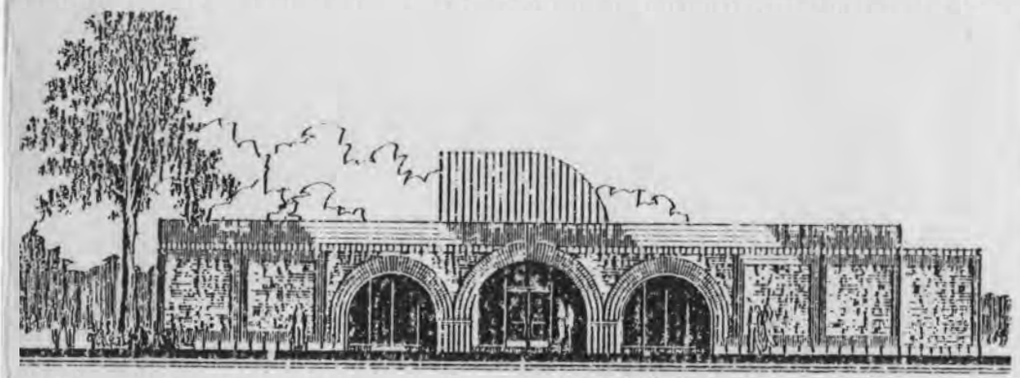
One thing that has not changed at all during the lifetime of the library is the contribution of volunteer workers. At least thirty volunteers are at present donating their time on a regular basis to the library, and there is a long list--in addition to organizations whose members have helped at various times--of 170 individuals who have given their time and energy (and indeed this very site itself) to the library at one time or another. They can all be especially proud today. Remembering how many people have worked for this library, we can say it is a public library in the truest sense--not only <u>for</u> the people, but <u>by</u> the people.

York County Public Library

Groundbreaking Ceremony

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1983, 3:00 P. M.

George Washington Highway at Harrod Lane



WEST ELEVATION

York County Public Library

GROUNDBREAKING

INVOCATION	Rev. Jack Lynch Crooks Memorial Methodist Church
REMARKS	Penny Nichols, Chairman Library Board
REMARKS	E. S. Bingley, Jr. Chairman, Board of Supervisors

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The O'Hara Family
Caro, Monroe & Liang, Architects
Lester L. Hudgins, Jr., Contractor

GROUNDBREAKING . . .	Mrs. Nichols and Mr. Bingley
HISTORY OF YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY . . .	Mrs. Beverly Dudley Librarian
BENEDICTION	Rev. Lynch

YORK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

E. S. Bingley, Jr., Chairman
K. Tabb Smith, Vice Chairman
Benjamin M. Rush, Jr.
Rodgers A. Smith
Jake G. Zalumas

YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Cencelia B. Nichols, Chairman
Amanda McLean, Vice Chairman
Diane H. Holland
Eric Sheriff
Elizabeth C. Rogers

A special Thank You to Amanda McLean
for making the souvenir bookmarks with tassels



Photo by Barbara Darnell

A kick for good luck

CRIER 9/15/83

E. S. "Buck" Bingley, chairman of the board of supervisors, and Penny Nichols, chairman of the library board of directors, use gold painted shovel to turn ground for York County's new $710,000 library on Route 17 at Harrods Lane. The new library will be about five times bigger than the existing library in the Grafton Shopping Center. Construction is scheduled to begin next week and is expected to be completed by July 1984.















Library volunteers

Yorktown Crier 3-8-84

YORKTOWN -- Twenty-one volunteers will be recognized Thursday, March 15 at a luncheon at the Yorktown Naval Weapons Station for services to the York County Public Library.

The volunteers work at the library desk, assist with children's reading programs, and mend books.

"The York County library began as a volunteer effort in 1970, and volunteers continue as one of our greatest assets," says librarian Beverly Dudley.

The luncheon is being sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Receiving certificates for their service wili be **Linda Barker, Dorothy Brigman, Charlotte Deadwyler, Martha Dowling, Peg and James Hadden, Patricia Huck, George Jones, Amanda McLean, Peg McNulty, Charlotte Owens, Ethel Peterson, Jean Ross, Jean Smith, Pauline Stanley, Margaret Tusler, Jeannette Abrahamson, Kathi H. Penny, Dianne Schoonover, Mary Cornell, Edith Lee and Ethel Mulqueen.**

Yorktown Crier, 3-8-84

Library gets a computer

YORKTOWN -- A computer will be presented to the Friends of the York County Library Friday, March 9 for use by library patrons when the new county library opens this summer.

Presenting the computer will be a representative of Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co., the largest contributor to the fund drive begun by the Friends three years ago.

A trained staff member or volunteer will be on hand at the library to assist with use of the computer once it is put into service. Programs will be available for purchase at the library, or citizens may bring their own.

Current Friends officers include Chairman June Smoot and Vice-Chairman Marge Harris.

Library doors

DAILY PRESS 3/15/84

Almost every library in our community began as a volunteer effort. First, small groups of neighbors would lend each other books and then they would find a central distribution point. Eventually, increased use by many people would necessitate larger quarters. At about that time, the taxpayers and their representatives would decide it was time for everyone to lend a hand.

One of the earlier efforts was the Hilton Village-Warwick library. Later examples include the extraordinary efforts by York County's volunteers.

In that fine tradition, New Kent and Charles City County are combining the efforts of retiree volunteers and a little bit of help from the community to keep their three-year-old library going. Heritage Library, with no employees, functions from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. No volunteers can spare weekends, so users have to make do with access when many other would-be patrons are at work or at school. Nevertheless, the five tiny rooms packed with books serve a large clientele.

Although the rooms and the help were donated, money had to be found to cover utilities, taxes, and insurance. Each county offered $500 annually for the total operating budget.

But if, as requested, the budgets of New Kent and Charles City would include a $2-per-resident allocation the resultant $28,000 would entitle the library to matching funds from the state. That would lead to increased library uses and users.

With a little bit of planning and budget commitment, the treasures so many people take for granted in full-service libraries could come to the Heritage Library community. Libraries can open many doors.





Computer befriends the library

A new computer was presented to the Friends of the York County Public Library March 9 by members of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co.'s York/Williasmburg community relations team. The company is the largest contributor to a fund drive the Friends began three years ago. The computer will be installed for use in the new library (background) which will be completed by summer. Clustered around the computer are (left to right): Wayne Brown of C&P, Friends chairman June Smoot, Carl Henley of C&P, Jeff Winter of Chaney Computer, John Lawson of C&P and Marge Harris, vice-chairman of the Friends.

sors' meetings are shown on Continental Cablevision Channel 36 at 7 pm on Tuesdays following board meetings. A story in the Town Crier March 22 listed the wrong time.

A computer pictured in the March 22 Town Crier has not yet been presented to the York County Public Library, contrary to the caption. Not enough funds have been collected to pay for the computer. Funds collected so far have come not from Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. per se, but from an organization of C&P personnel, as well as members of the Friends of the Library and other individuals.

BUSY DAYS FOR THE LIBRARY STAFF

The Library has many issues confronting it right now--all to do with the new library move. We're trying to do an inventory and weed our collection while carrying on normal library business in a very busy time of year.

The questions facing us include--How many new staff members will we have at the new and larger library? How should our staff be organized? Should our checkout policy remain the same, or should we change the time limit on books? Since the new library will give us more room, but also changes in working positions, what changes will we make in procedures to insure smooth functioning? All these questions, and many more, are being discussed among staff members, and undoubtedly many more will arise before our move is completed.

But everyone looks forward to the new building, on the traumatic move is over.

Oh yes, one more problem we're facing is trying to work in everybody's vacation before the middle of July when the move is likely to occur.

STAFF STUFF --CS 3/84

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW, BUT DIDN'T KNOW WHOM TO ASK, ABOUT THE NEW YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Where will the new library be?

On Route 17, next to the 7-11 near Harrod's Lane. That's 2.7 miles north of the present library in Grafton Shopping Center.

When will the new library open?

About August 1, if all goes well. There will be a Grand Opening celebration with a number of special events during the week of October 14-20, to coincide with the celebration of Yorktown Day.

Will there still be a branch library in Grafton, in the present library building?

No.

Will the library hours remain the same?

Present plans are for keeping the library open the same number of hours per week (59), but possibly increasing Saturday hours and closing Friday evenings. If future library use continues to grow, and we have sufficient staff, extra hours may be added. Present library hours are 10 am to 9 pm weekdays and 10 am to 2 pm on Saturdays.

What new features will the new library have?

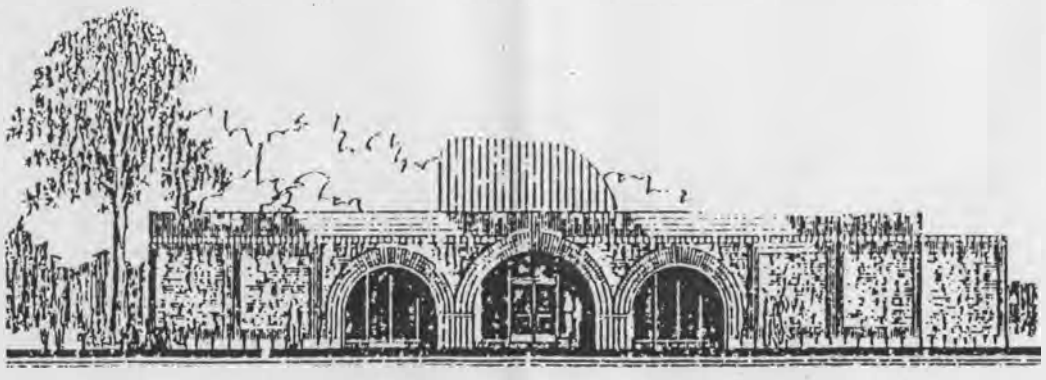
Lots more space, which will include more study tables and carrels, and a larger lounge area.
A computer that may be used by the public.
Lots of magazines.
More staff to help patrons find reference materials.
A separate meeting room, which will be used for children's programs and movies, and will be available for a community meeting room.

Will you be getting lots of new books for the new library?

We'll probably be adding books at a faster rate than at present, but we won't add a large number at one time. One of the main reasons that we needed this new library was so that we would have room to expand over the next several years. You may not realize that we add about 300 books to the library every month.

Who may use the new library?

Membership is free to anyone; all that's needed is proof of address. The same membership cards now used will be used at the new library.




YORK
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YORK TOWN CRIER

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A people project

Editorial

The new York County Public Library celebrates its grand opening next week in a new building worthy of the name.

Many people are responsible for the fact that York County finally has a library building to be proud of, and they deserve a tremendous vote of thanks.

These folks built a library out of nothing but an old house and a raft of donated books, saw it expand, gained what grudging county support they could and pounded the pavement in search of signatures to get the bond issue for the new building into a referendum in 1981.

They have faced an uphill struggle all the way.

While we're passing out the praise, we also want to pass out a few Bronx cheers for those supervisors who balk at spending tax dollars in this way.

Some of our supervisors and the county administration seem to bank on the old adage "penny wise and pound foolish," shelling out lots of tax dollars for things like a million-dollar fire department and lavish salaries for county bureaucrats, but pinching pennies when it comes to developing services like libraries or parks or recreation programs.

A story about New Quarter Park last week emphasizes this tendency. The county was given the land nine years ago, but the supervisors have never funded its development. It will open next spring, on a shoestring, open only to groups because that cuts down on the amount of policing required.

The county department of leisure services tells us it wants a $3.1 million bond issue for new parkland on the ballot next year. If the referendum passes, will that land meet the same fate?

As the supervisors look at the proposed county pay plan, we ask them to begin to realize what priorities the county has chosen.

The county's newsletter, in the last issue, listed a bountiful menu of goals for the county. The supervisors need to begin to make the tough choices among that menu, and realize that how the county spends its tax revenues reflects these choices.

Is the fire department or the utilities department really 15 times more important than the library? That's the kind of question the supervisors need to answer.

And it's a little misleading to compare some of our county bureaucrats' salaries to neighboring cities without comparing the level of services offered or the size of the departments they administer.

We think it's time the county recognized the importance its citizens place on first-class library facilities, and began to reorient the county's priorities to line up with the citizens'.

--M.K.S.

Daily Press / Times Herald Supplement - 2-15-84

Save magazines for the library

The York County Library is seeking pledges from citizens who are willing to save magazines from now until the opening of the new library building this summer for donation to the library.

Limited space in the present building has prevented the library from subscribing to a variety of periodicals, but the move into a larger facility will provide space for many new subscriptions.

"We are asking families that now subscribe to one of the magazines on our list to collect and store the issues from January 1984 until we open," says librarian Beverly Dudley.

Anyone who would like to save one or more of the following magazines for the library may call Mrs. Dudley at 898-0077:

"American Heritage," "Atlantic Monthly," "Better Homes and Gardens," "Business Week," "BYTE," "Changing Times," "Compute," "Congressional Digest," "Creative Computing," "Creative Crafts & Miniatures," "Cycle World," "Ebony," "Education Digest," "Money," "Motor Trend," "Ms," "National Geographic World" and "National Review."

Also, "National Wildlife Magazine," "New Republic," "New Yorker," "Newsweek," "Outdoor Life," "Parents' Magazine," "People Weekly," "Personal Computing," "Environment," "Health," "50 Plus," "Good Housekeeping," "Harper's Magazine," "McCall's," "Mechanix Illustrated," "Science Digest," "Science News," "Scientific American," "Seventeen," "Sport" and "Sports Illustrated."

Also, "Time," "NEA Today," "Us," "U.S. News & World Report," "Popular Mechanics," "Popular Science Monthly," "Psychology Today," "Readers Digest," "Rolling Stone," "Saturday Evening Post," "Saturday Review," "Virginia Magazine of History and Biography" and "William and Mary Quarterly."



July opening still the goal for library



Staff photo by MICHAEL DILLARD

Paper wrappings hide the beauty of the library's wood beams.

By KATHY WILLIAMSON
Staff Writer

A wet December has resulted in a revised construction schedule for the new York County library, but David Whitley, chief engineer for Public Works, says the original July 15 opening date is still the goal.

"December was one of the rainiest months on record, and the company was trying to do foundation work then," says Whitley. "That's tough to do in rainy weather."

Standing now on Route 17 near the corner of Harrod's Lane is the laminated wood and beam part of the building, which will include a 1,000-square-foot multi-purpose community meeting room, a children's area, 4,200 square feet of book stacks and a local history room.

"Normally you put a suspended ceiling and cover over it, but this one will be exposed from the inside," says Whitley.

Clerestories, or windows that rise above the roof, will provide natural light for the reading and check-out desk.

The architect for the $708,000 building is Caro, Monroe and Liang of Newport News, and Hudgins Construction Co. is the contractor.

Approximately $75,000 has been set aside for furnishings, mostly book shelving but some for tables, chairs, card catalogs and office equipment.

"We will use some existing shelving from the old library in Grafton Shopping Center, but for the most part the new library will have new furnishings," Whitley says. "The furnishings now in the library are pretty bad."

So far, construction materials have been readily available.

The library, which will have a brick exterior accented with three arches, will be wired so a computerized library services system can be added later without electrical modifications to the building.

Friends of the Library, headed by June Smoot, will purchase a home-type computer which will be available for use by the public.

The new library will also offer newspapers and magazines, which have not been available at the shopping center site because of no space, says Penny Nichols, chairman of the library board.

Please see **Library, Page 2**

Continued from Page 1

Community groups will be able to use the meeting room at night. A kitchenette, stackable chairs and film equipment such as a permanent electric screen, projector and projection room will make it functional for various events.

Diane Holland heads up the committee to oversee the local history room that will feature oral history tapes on early county events and interviews with older county residents.

Mrs. Nichols encourages residents to make donations to the library so extras cut out of the budget can be purchased. A flag pole, concrete benches and other landscaping items for the lawn and refrigerator and microwave for the kitchen are items the library could use, but money isn't available for them now.

Donations can be mailed to the York County Public Library, P.O. Box 1275, Grafton, Va. 23692, or to Penny Nichols, 114 Dogwood Court, Yorktown, Va. 23690. A committee will oversee the purchases.

The library will open in July, but a grand opening week will be held during the week of Yorktown Day on Oct. 19. Different activities for all ages will be scheduled daily.

Feb. 22, 1984 / Daily-Press/The Times-Herald

CITIZEN NEWS 3/84

Library Donations Accepted

The Library Board is accepting cash contributions toward several items at the new library which is expected to open this summer.

Among needed items are a flag pole, bike rack, outdoor benches, wall hangings, shrubs, and a microwave oven and refrigerator for the community room. Anyone wishing to contribute to this fund may address the Library Fund, P. O. Box 1275, Grafton, VA 23692.

Crier 4/5/84

Library seeks history interviewers

GRAFTON – The York County Library History Group is interested in locating people to be interviewers for an oral history program to be housed in the new county library now under construction.

The group is also interested in York County residents who remember historical events that they would like to put on tape.

Those interested can leave names and phone numbers with the library at 898-0077 or with Diane Holland, chairman of the local history group, at 898-5863.

There will be a preliminary workshop held April 19, 10am, in room 14 of the county courthouse to explain the process. The workshop will be conducted by Virginia Rollings. No pre-registration is necessary for the workshop, however, more details can be obtained by calling the library or Ms. Holland.

Library wants slogans

YORKTOWN – The York County Public Library is challenging its patrons to write slogans illustrating the library's services for National Library Week.

Beginning March 26, pictures will be posted at the library showing people in many different situations. Library patrons are invited to think up clever captions, funny or serious, that fit the pictures and tell how the library helps the person pictured. The captions will be displayed during National Library Week, April 8-14.

York Town Crier 6/7/84

Reading club starts in York...

GRAFTON -- Any child who was in grades 1-6 this past school year is invited to join the Read For The Gold Reading Club at the York County Public Library which begins June 18 and ends July 14.

Books reported on must have been read after the close of school, and must have come from the library's collection. No pre-registration is necessary.

A reading log will be kept at the library for each child. Each child will set his own goal for the number of books to be read. Upon completion of this goal, a Hardee's hamburger token will be awarded.

Preschool and kindergarten children who want to participate will have a special log kept for recording books read to them by family members, but no prizes will be awarded.

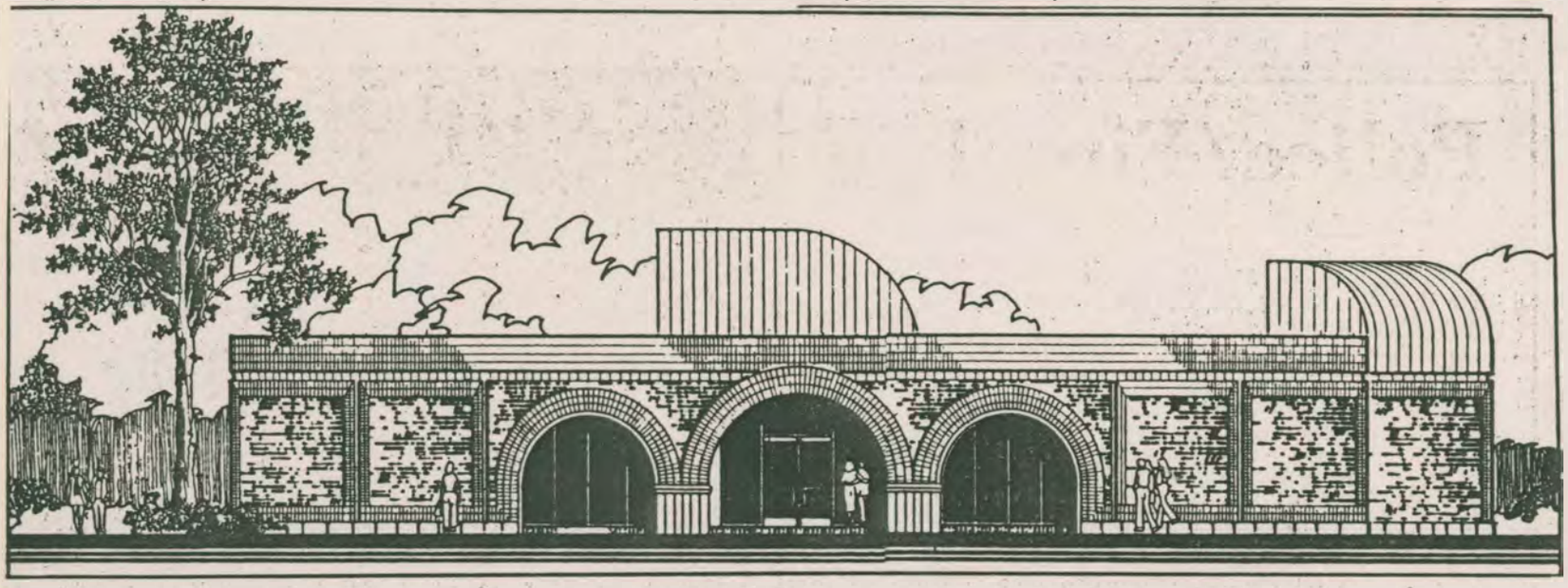
Due to the upcoming move of the library to its new home near Edgehill, this summer's program has been shortened, and the traditional movies and party have been eliminated.

There will not be a children's story hour this summer. Story hour will resume after school begins in the fall.

Library hours are 10am to 9pm weekdays and 10am to 2pm Saturdays.







Colonial Design For York Library

The York County Board of Supervisors has approved this colonial design for the county library. The design, created by the Newport News architectural firm of Caro, Monroe and Liang, includes arched clerestories on the roof. The clerestories will allow indirect sunlight into the library for easier daytime reading. Also included in the design is a meeting room that can seat about 50 people. The library will cost about $900,000 to build on donated property at Harrod Lane and Route 17. The county planning staff has tentatively set bid-letting for the spring and construction for the summer.

Citizen News 5/84

LIBRARY PLANS OPENING

The York County Public Library, under construction since last fall, is expected to open in August. A week of grand opening celebrations will be held later, beginning October 14 and ending Yorktown Day, October 19.

The ribbon cutting ceremony is planned on Sunday, October 14. Other activities during the week include an authors' luncheon October 16 at Nick's Seafood Pavilion. Three well-known local authors will speak and will sell autographed books at the luncheon. Tickets are available from Jean Kirkham, 898-5691.

A wine and cheese celebration will be held at the library October 17 sponsored by library patrons, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Jalufka of Edgehill.

The library staff is planning special displays at the library during grand opening week including an appropriate display to recognize Yorktown Day, and a special event is planned for the children by patron Margaret Cubberly. Details of the grand opening schedule will be printed in the September issue of Citizen News.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

Library Board Chairman Penny Nichols reports many items already donated for the new library. The T. E. Thomsens of Edgehill are furnishing appliances and dishes for the community room kitchenette. Mary Mathews of Yorktown has donated a flag and a flag pole valued at $1800 in memory of her husband Nick Mathews. Library board members have donated $500, and other donations have been received from woman's clubs, extension clubs and library patrons.

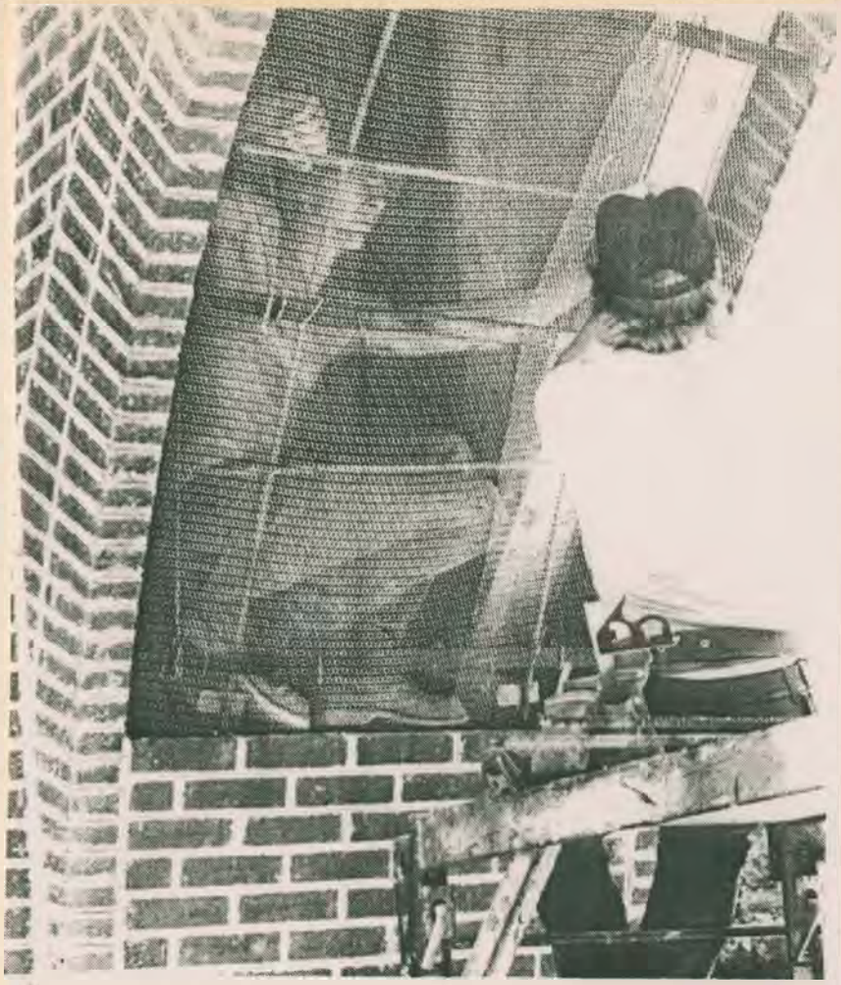
A total of $12,000 is sought by the Library Board to add finishing touches to the new facility. Donations may be addressed to Library Fund, P. O. Box 1275, Grafton, VA 23692.



Staff photo by KENNETH SILVER

Up and over

Charles Estes, 21, is getting some of his training as an apprentice bricklayer on the archway of the York County public library. The new facility, for which construction is nearing completion, is on Route 17.



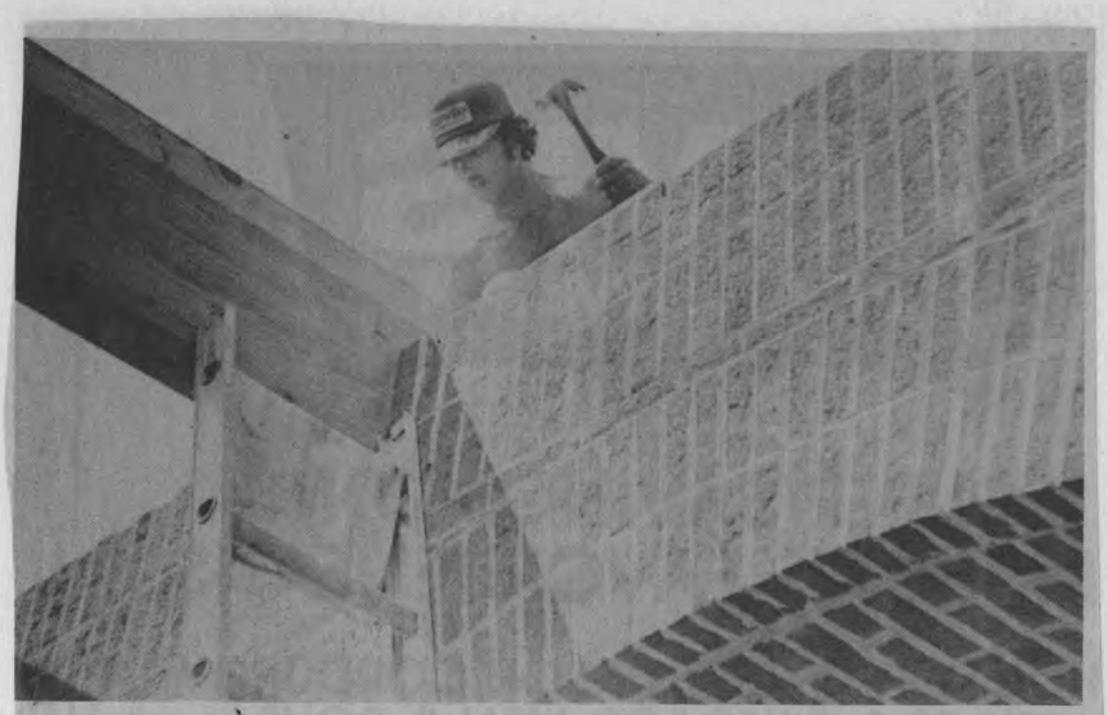
York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

These arches aren't golden

On the contrary, they'll be made of brick, and they're located at the entrances to the new York County Library under construction on Route 17 at Harrod Lane near Edgehill. Stanley Beamon (left) works inside on the the arches, helping Ron Austin get the wire mesh ready for more bricklaying. Hudgins Construction Co.'s Randy Sawyer says July 15 is still the hoped-for date of completion.

YORK TOWN CRIER 6/12/84





—Bill Nachman

Raymond Runnion of Chesapeake does some finishing touches to the roof of York County's new library.

VA GAZETTE 8/8/84

Materials delay library completion

By RAY BETZNER
Staff Writer

YORK — Delays in receiving some electrical materials and window glass will mean the new county public library will not be ready next week as originally scheduled.

County staff members think the building should be ready in six to eight weeks.

The original contract for the 12,000-square-foot library gave Hudgins Construction Co. of Newport News until July 15 to complete the building at Harrod's Lane and Route 17, between Yorktown and Grafton.

The building is about three-quarters complete, but delays in delivery of materials will mean the county's library books will have to stay in the current library at Grafton Shopping Center.

Last week, the contractor warned that the building might not be ready until the end of September. County engineer Fred Whitley said after negotiating with the contractor that an alternative type of glass has been picked. The alternative glass can be shipped sooner.

"We're looking at late August or early September right now," Whitley said. "We've asked the contractor for a revised schedule and expect to get it soon."

Whitley said bids from moving companies will be solicited soon. About 30,000 books need to be moved several miles along Route 17 from the current library to the new building. Whitley said a separate contract needs to be completed after the move for landscaping at the site.

The new building has a brick exterior with an arched colonnade on its front. A clerestory, a roof addition that provides indirect sunlight, will help keep the building energy efficient.

Hudgins was the low bidder on the construction contract, which went for about $708,000.

When completed, the new library will have five times more space than the present quarters.That will mean more room to display books and the addition of a community meeting room.

County residents approved a $900,000 bond issue in November 1981 to pay for the construction, design and legal fees.

A tentative dedication date is being planned for Yorktown Day, Oct. 19.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

Bells in a library?

The exposed ductwork system in the new York County Public Library building on Route 17 looks like something out of Star Wars. The architectural firm of Caro, Monroe and Liang, who designed the building, also designed the vent ends of the ductwork. The pipes will send heated or cooled air from an electric heat pump throughout the building. The new library building is scheduled to open between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15.

Library, TV push books for children

NORFOLK -- The Reading Rainbow, a series of 15 half-hour programs to encourage summer reading for beginning readers, begins Monday on WHRO, Channel 15.

The programs include animated adaptations of children's books, field trips and book reviews by children.

The series will appear Mondays through Fridays, 3:30pm, July 11-29; and will be repeated at the same day and time Aug. 1-19 and at 6pm July 18-Aug. 5.

Host for the series is LeVar Burton, well-known for his portrayal of Kunte Kinte in the television dramatization of "Roots."

Books for the series are available at York County Public Library.

Children's books featured on the program will include "Tight Times," "Miss Nelson Is Back," "Bea and Mr. Jones," "Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain," "Louis the Fish," "Digging Up Dinosaurs," "Liang and the Magic Paintbrush," "Gila Monsters Meet You at the Airport," "Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe," "The Gift of the Sacred Dog," "Gregory is a Terrible Eater," "Three by the Sea," "Arthur's Eyes," "The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash" and "Ty's One Man Band."















SEE OBSERVER-TIMES, LA CALLE, BOOK

Library already has growing pains

The Virginia Gazette
Williamsburg 8/8/84

By Bill Nachman

York County's new library hasn't even opened its doors yet and already the librarian and several county supervisors are saying that it may not be large enough.

Meanwhile, District 1 supervisor Buck Bingley and District 5 supervisor Tabb Smith said they are uncertain whether many of their constituents—spread as they are near the upper and lower reaches of York—actually will patronize the new facility, scheduled to open next month, because of the long distances many of them would have to travel to get there. If lower county residents want to use the library, located at Route 17 and Harrod Lane near Grafton, they will have to drive on Route 17, which Smith said "is already crowded all of the time."

Librarian Beverly Dudley said she understands that the library's 10-year lifespan, in terms of being adequate, has been reduced to about eight years even before any patrons use the building. County growth in recent months is partly accountable for this, she said.

Smith said that what's happening at the library is somewhat like what the supervisors once faced with the old landfill—a new facility "which will need to be addressed almost before you realize it." The library tentatively has been scheduled to open early next month.

The new facility will be approximately five times as large as the current library, located in leased quarters at the Grafton Shopping Center. But Mrs. Dudley said she is not actively seeking to purchase a lot of materials with which to fill up all of the extra space, noting that the 12,000-square-foot facility will finally give York a library where people will have ample shelf and resource space.

The building, which has a colonial-style facade, is being financed with a $900,000 bond issue approved by county voters in 1981. The cost of construction is estimated at $700,000, plus other costs for utility connections, furnishings, and to set up a library construction reserve fund.

One big difference between the old and new libraries, Mrs. Dudley said, is that the larger floor plan will allow more emphasis on reference and research functions. Approximately 50 seats will be set up, most at tables, where people may read or work, compared to only about 10 seats in the old library.

Although reference desks are planned for both the reference and children's book sections, Mrs. Dudley said staffing has not been approved for those positions. The library basically will open with the staff, most of them part-timers, who now work at the Grafton site. "I won't know about new additions until after the supervisors have received a personnel study that is being done," she said.

As a visitor approaches the new building, the main entrance will be off Route 17. To the left will be a community meeting room and a children's section will be off to the right. A large study area is adjacent to the children's section, while a reference area will be buffered from the meeting area by a large circulation desk.

The interior will feature wine and burgundy colors, with soft wood tones in the extensive wooden arches.

Initial plans do not call for either electronic book alarms or electronic checkout systems, but Mrs. Dudley said both have been mentioned as long-range possibilities. A state library grant has been received to get a total readout of all library holdings.

"I'm not going to immediately go out and buy a whole lot of books," Mrs. Dudley said. The library has been adding about 3,000 volumes per year to its already overcrowded shelves, she said, many of the volumes in response to new reading trends for self-help books and volumes on computers and related fields.

If possible, Mrs. Dudley said she wants the movers not to place books on the top and bottom shelves—the hardest to reach—and save those for incoming books. A Maryland company, which was contracted to move the White House library, will conduct the library move.

Should the library grow as anticipated, Mrs. Dudley said there is ample expansion room behind the facility, further back from Route 17.

Preliminary plans call for the official dedication ceremony to be held during the week of Yorktown Day, Oct. 15-20. The Friends of the Library, which holds fund-raisers and other projects, is in need of volunteers and those interested can call 898-6481.

Library to open Sept. 10

YORK — The lights are in, most of the window glass has been set and preparations are on schedule for the Sept. 10 opening of the new York County Public Library.

The last panes of glass for the brick building at Route 17 and Harrod's Lane north of Grafton should be set in place in the next few days, said Fred Whitley, county chief engineer.

The library at Grafton Shopping Center will close Sept. 5. Whitley said a Maryland moving company then will take three days to transport more than 30,000 books to the new building.

The movers will take the books off the library's shelves and put the books onto shelves with wheels.

This allows the books to be moved while maintaining their proper order, Whitley said.

The new library will have about five times more space with its 12,000 square feet.

The one-story brick structure cost about $708,000 and is being paid for with bonds approved in a November 1981 referendum.

The new library will be dedicated Oct. 14.

DAILY PRESS 8/23/84

CITIZEN NEWS

LIBRARY OPENS SOON

The Library Board of Trustees has planned a gala celebration to commemorate the opening of York County's new public library on George Washington Highway at Harrod Lane.

The library is expected to open its doors in mid-September, and an official Grand Opening event will be held Sunday, October 14, at 3 p.m. After a ribbon cutting, a tour of the library will be followed by a reception.

An author's luncheon October 16 at Nick's Seafood Pavilion will feature Jim Kincaid, I. Noel Hume, Polly Longworth and other local authors. Lunch will be served at 12:30 and tickets are $6.50. Authors will autograph books and there will be special book displays and sales.

International coffees and New York cheese cake will be served at the library Wednesday, October 17 from 7-9 p.m. A string ensemble from the York Community Orchestra will provide music and local artists will exhibit their works. Cost is $2 per person.

An "Afternoon in Camelot" will recreate medieval life on the grounds of the library on Saturday, October 20. Knights in chain mail will engage in personal combat, minstrels and jugglers will perform, and food and drinks from the medieval period will be sold. This is a special event for children, but children of all ages are invited.

Call the Library, 898-0077, for reservations or for more information on these events.



VA GAZETTE 9/8/84

Story hours resume at library

Story hours for preschoolers will resume at the new York library on Route 17 at Harrod Lane on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 10:30 a.m. The library will open at the new site on Sept. 10.

A group of five volunteers will rotate leading the story hours each Tuesday. Mary Cornell will lead the programs in September. After films from the state library are shown, the volunteers will tell stories and lead the children in games and songs.

More funds allocated for library equipment

By Bill Nachman

The York County public library will receive $15,530 more in state aid this year than originally anticipated. The funds will allow for the purchase of additional books and equipment, librarian Beverly Dudley said.

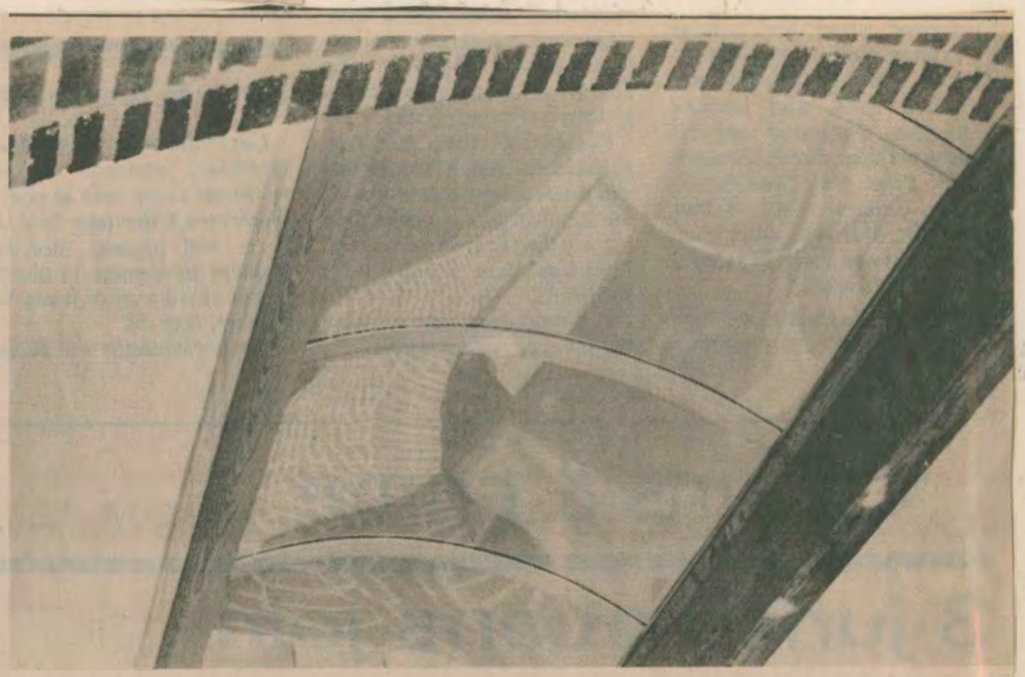
$44,500 had been budgeted for books, but that figure has now been raised $11,030, up to a new total of $55,530 for the year ending June 30, 1985.

$5,465 had been budgeted for new office equipment, but the extra state aid boosts that sum $4,500 up to a total of $9,965.

The $4,500 equipment addition will be used for a Minolta reader/printer for use with either microfiche or microfilm. The amount also includes an estimated $100 for supplies and $100 for possible repairs after the three months' warranty expires.

The county supervisors adopted a resolution Thursday night, which approved the application of state aid to the library account.

The Virginia Gazette
Williamsburg 8/22/84



Bill Nachman

Library reflections

This overhead picture illustrates the modern look of York County's new library, which is scheduled to open Sept. 10. The new facility, located at Route 17 and Harrod Lane, will be open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturdays. The present library at the Grafton Shopping Center will close Sept. 1. A formal grand opening for the new building will be held Oct. 14.

County library close for move to new site

The York County Library will be closed Saturday through Sept. 10 so books and supplies may be moved to the new building on Route 17 at Harrod Lane.

Because books and materials can't be returned while the library is closed, late fines will not be charged during that time.

The new library will open at 10 a.m. Sept. 10. Hours will remain the same: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. The telephone number will also remain the same: 898-0077.

A book drop will be left at the Grafton location for several days after the library closes. Another book drop at the new library will have an outside book receptacle when the new building opens.

Work on the new library is nearly complete. Glass, carpet and other furnishings are being installed this week. A formal grand opening is scheduled for Oct. 14.



New library's doors open Monday

YORK TOWN CRIER Sept 6, 1984



by Virginia Gabriele
York Town Crier

EDGEHILL -- At 10am Monday, Sept. 10, York County's new $900,000 public library will open its doors to the public.

Waiting inside the spacious brick contemporary building on Route 17 at Harrods Lane will be the same familiar books and the same familiar faces of the library staff as at the old storefront library in Grafton Shopping Center.

But almost everything else will be new: from the arched oak ceiling to the bentwood rocking chairs to the raised projection booth in the 63-seat meeting room.

This week has been moving week for the library, and a time to put the finishing touches on the building and its furnishings.

Early Monday the shelves stood bare and straight, waiting for their books. A workman did some final sanding while another carefully positioned the vinyl transfer letters for the building's major signs.

Fred Whitley, the county's project engineer, began opening cartons of stepstools, chairs and wastebaskets, while decorator David Michaels removed plastic covers from easy chairs and "grapestone" colored velvet kneeler/sitters for teen readers.

Librarian Beverly Dudley arrived with a list of last-minute questions, and the move was underway.

Mrs. Dudley said the entire project has been a pleasure. "I think it's turned out great and I hope everybody else does," she said.

Even the move itself didn't loom so difficult after the library staff learned it didn't have to pack thousands of books into boxes.

Todd Moving and Storage of Gaithersburg, Md., is transferring the books onto rolling shelves which go right into the truck and then roll to the appropriate shelf in the new library. The moving company is even reshelving all the books.

The library staff will spend the next few days unpacking and arranging things and then, over the weekend, the circulation desk will arrive, ready for Monday's opening.

"We've got the building, now I hope we get the staff so we can do a good job," said Mrs. Dudley. Her budget requests for additional people were held in abeyance while the county waited for completion of an outside study of job descriptions and classifications. Now Mrs. Dudley is afraid her requests for more people will be lost in the county's general dissatisfaction with the entire study.

The new library is about three times bigger than the cramped store in Grafton and will offer plenty of room to expand the book collections.



Beverly Dudley stands among new empty stacks.

Designed by Caro, Monroe & Ling Architects and built by Hudgins Construction Co., both of Newport News, the building's exterior is brick contemporary.

Inside, a large central hall has a high arched wooden ceiling with exposed ductwork and banners. Stacks are set at angles, and there are seating "cozies" with easy chairs, tables and rockers near the windows. A short carpeted wall divides the adult and children's sections. The reference section is at the end of the central hall and has an adjacent Virginiana room.

The library also contains a meeting room with folding tables and chairs and a motorized screen, offices, storeroom and kitchen.

Interior designer Michaels said he and his wife Andrea tried to "marry the traditional nature of the community with the contemporary nature of the building and update it with high-tech library services. We have one foot in Colonial Williamsburg and the ther foot in the 21st century."

The Alexandria couple, who have designed about 40 libraries from Minnesota to Venezuela, chose a neutral color scheme to highlight all the wood surfaces, with blue and purple as the major accent colors.

"Everything has to be pragmatic and functional," said Michaels, "but libraries also want to do a bit of marketing to entice people to read, so we've added little surprises and whimsy." Besides the bentwood rocking chairs and kneeler/sitters for teens, there are carpeted cylinders that small children can crawl into to sit and read.

What's left of the $900,000 bond issue that financed the library will go into landscaping, according to Mrs. Dudley. Elaine Zeiders of the county's leisure services department is adapting the original landscaping plan, and Extention agent Jim Orband is coordinating a crew of volunteer laborers.

The library will be open the same hours as it was at Grafton: 10am-9pm Monday through Friday, 10am-2pm Saturday.

Mrs. Dudley said ribbon-cutting and ceremonies are planned for mid-October.



Staff photo by DAVID BOWMAN

Moving day

DAILY PRESS

About half of the York County Public Library's 30,000 books were moved Wednesday from their old home in the Grafton Shopping Center to the new library at Route 17 and Harrod Lane. Workers helped move books to the shelves in the new library. Librarian Beverly Dudley said the move is on schedule and the new library will be open at 10 a.m. Monday. A dedication for the library is scheduled for Oct. 14.








Sorry –
We are not yet fully
operational, because:
Some furniture
has not arrived;
We are still unpacking;
We are very tired.
Please be Patient



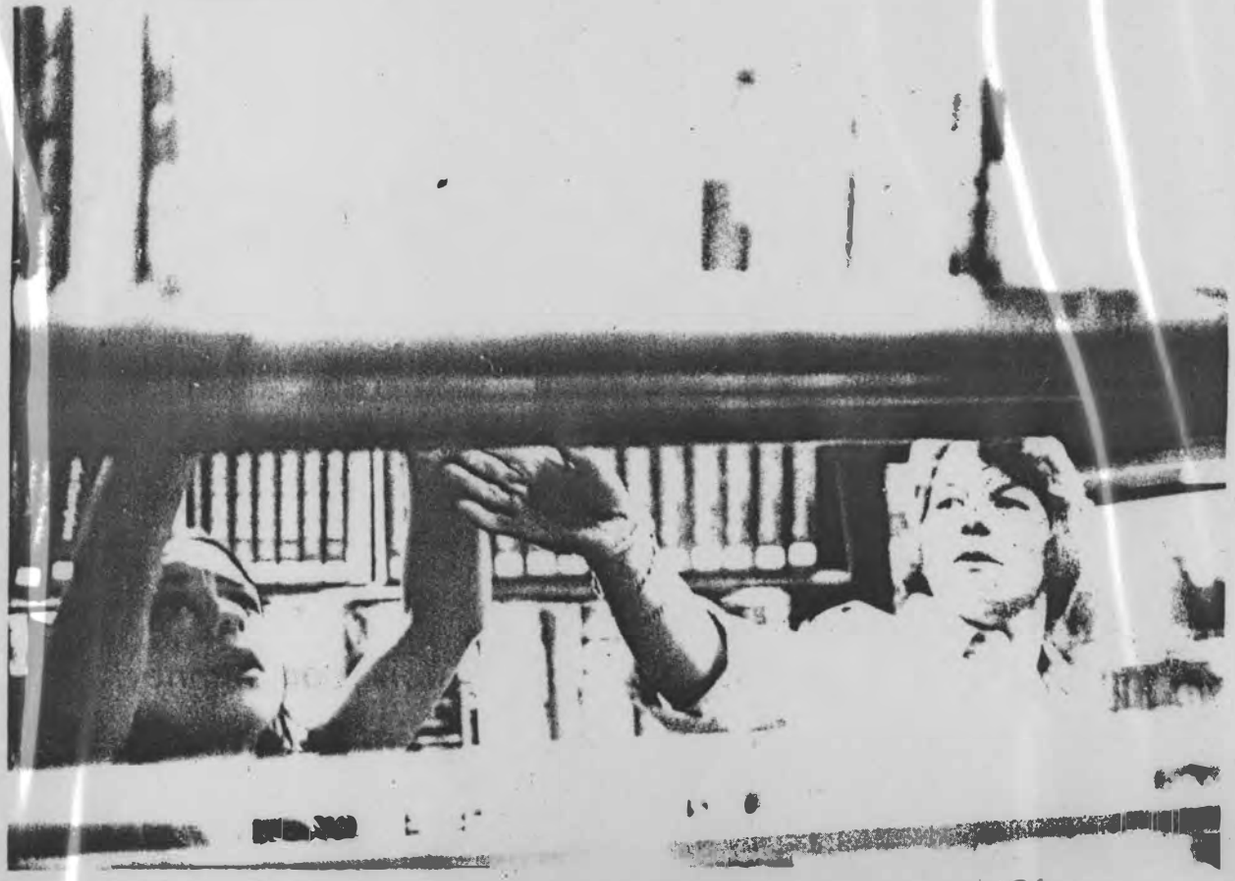






Little fanfare, many books

The new York County public library near Harrods Lane opened Monday morning with little ceremony. There were still books to rearrange (below) as Robin Corley, left, and new part-time employee Charlotte Owens worked on the reference section. Rebekah Nolan of Grafton was the first youngster to try out the kid-sized tables and chairs in the children's section. She picked out a Dr. Seuss book, and examined it gravely. Opening ceremonies will be held next month.



York Town Crier Sept. 13, 1984



Latane Jones

VA. GAZETTE 9/15/84

Books in business

The new York County Public Library opened Monday to a full h was not completely furnished for its grand opening, that didn't stop loca checking out the facility and the books.

Cards made - 162
Repl. - 11
New - 151

Count

Story hours for kids

Story hours for preschool children resumed Tuesday in the new York County Public Library on Route 17 at Harrod Lane.

A group of five volunteers will rotate leading the story hours, held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays when school is in session. Mary Cornell will lead the program in September.

After films from the state library are shown, volunteers tell stories and lead the children in games and songs.

"Space was limited for this in the old library, where we were afraid of disturbing other patrons, but the new library has plenty of room," says Mrs. Cornell.

Sessions will be held either in the children's section of the library or in the conference room.

Page P/YC 8 — DAILY PRESS and THE TIMES-HERALD,

York's New Public Library Open

by Clare Stifft

The library has finally accomplished its long-awaited move into its beautiful new building--well, almost. We were closed for a week while we sorted and packed, the movers took the books off the shelves, and then transferred them again to the shelves in the new library--not always in the same order.

Not all of our new furniture arrived in time for the opening, so some makeshift solutions had to be thought up for temporary use. The staff worked long hours all week and weekend, and we were able to open on Monday morning, Sept. 10, with at least limited service. Only books could be checked out until the rest of the furniture arrived and all the boxes were unpacked.

The workmen are still around, doing finishing touches. Landscaping will be done, we hope, before the Grand Opening ceremonies Oct. 14. Meanwhile, there is a lot to be done before we are operating smoothly, but the staff members are enjoying the new spacious quarters.

The meeting room already has been put to use three times, and cards were issued to 151 new members in the first week. If you haven't yet come to see your new library, be sure to visit it soon. You'll be impressed!

9/84

9/84

Authors' Lunch Honors Library

The Library Board invites you to come and enjoy lunch at Nick's Seafood Pavilion with Jim Kincaid, I. Noel Hume, and Polly Longworth and other local authors on Tuesday, October 16, at 12:30. Cost is $6.50 per person. Call the Library for tickets.

Special displays will be shown, along with sales and autographing by local authors.

Library:

The library has welcomed a new part-time employee, CHARLOTTE OWENS, to its staff. Charlotte is no newcomer to the library--she has been a volunteer for a long time.

KAREN ROWELL who has been a library student page for two years, has left the library to begin college classes. Two new student pages, KAREN WILLS and SHERRY MIETZ, will be helping out this year.

9/84

Library prepares grand opening

After three years of hard work by many people, York County is finally ready to celebrate the opening of its new public library building on Route 17 at Harrod Lane with a week of festivities.

The celebration will include:

- A grand opening at 3 p.m. Sunday. It will begin with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and include a flag ceremony, a tour of the new facility and a catered reception.
- An authors luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 16 in Nick's Seafood Pavilion in Yorktown. Noted writers Jim Kincaid, Ivor Noel Hume and Polly Longsworth will speak, and other local authors will display, sell and autograph their works. The cost of the luncheon is $6.50 per person, and seating is limited.
- "An Evening at the Library" from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 17. The Warwick Cheese Shop will cater the event with international coffees and New York cheesecake. The York River Community Orchestra will provide music, and local artists will perform and exhibit their works. Refreshments will cost $2 per person.
- "An Afternoon at Camelot" at 11 a.m. Oct. 20. Minstrel Richard Follett will sing, and storyteller Margaret Cubberly will tell tales of dragons, unicorns and other creatures from fantasyland. Knights in shining armor will give combat demonstrations in the "natural amphitheater" in the back of the library.

Page [illegible] — DAILY PRESS and THE TIMES-HERALD, [illegible]

Friends to give computer to library

Friends of the York County Library will present an APPLE IIe computer to the library at 7:30 tonight. The presentation will take place at the library's new site on Route 17. The public is encouraged to attend.

The computer will be equipped with the following accessories: 2 disc drives, a color monitor, a printer, a graphic interface card, a file cabinet for floppy discs and appropriate software.

Funds for the computer were obtained from various sources — dues from library-interested residents who have become members of the Friends, Friends book sales, and solicited donations from business organizations. The Friends also wish to express appreciation to Chaney Computer Associates, Inc. of York Village Center for its unstinted cooperation in assisting the Friends responsible for procuring the computer.

HERALD, Newport News, Va., Wednesday, Oct. 10, 1984

A people project

Editorial

The new York County Public Library celebrates its grand opening next week in a new building worthy of the name.

Many people are responsible for the fact that York County finally has a library building to be proud of, and they deserve a tremendous vote of thanks.

These folks built a library out of nothing but an old house and a raft of donated books, saw it expand, gained what grudging county support they could and pounded the pavement in search of signatures to get the bond issue for the new building into a referendum in 1981.

They have faced an uphill struggle all the way.

While we're passing out the praise, we also want to pass out a few Bronx cheers for those supervisors who balk at spending tax dollars in this way.

Some of our supervisors and the county administration seem to bank on the old adage "penny wise and pound foolish," shelling out lots of tax dollars for things like a million-dollar fire department and lavish salaries for county bureaucrats, but pinching pennies when it comes to developing services like libraries or parks or recreation programs.

A story about New Quarter Park last week emphasizes this tendency. The county was given the land nine years ago, but the supervisors have never funded its development. It will open next spring, on a shoestring, open only to groups because that cuts down on the amount of policing required.

The county department of leisure services tells us it wants a $3.1 million bond issue for new parkland on the ballot next year. If the referendum passes, will that land meet the same fate?

As the supervisors look at the proposed county pay plan, we ask them to begin to realize what priorities the county has chosen.

The county's newsletter, in the last issue, listed a bountiful menu of goals for the county. The supervisors need to begin to make the tough choices among that menu, and realize that how the county spends its tax revenues reflects these choices.

Is the fire department or the utilities department really 15 times more important than the library? That's the kind of question the supervisors need to answer.

And it's a little misleading to compare some of our county bureaucrats' salaries to neighboring cities without comparing the level of services offered or the size of the departments they administer.

We think it's time the county recognized the importance its citizens place on first-class library facilities, and began to reorient the county's priorities to line up with the citizens'.

--M.K.S.

York Town Crier 10/11/84



York County
Public Library
Board of Trustees

Invites you to a Gala Celebration

Grand Opening - October 14

Plan to attend with your family the ribbon cutting on Sunday, October 14, 1984 at 3 p.m. at the New Library. Tour and reception will be held afterwards.

The Author's Luncheon and *An Evening at the Library* have been planned for adults. *An Afternoon in Camelot* has been planned for children of all ages.

Author's Luncheon - October 16

Come and enjoy lunch at Nick's Seafood Pavilion with Jim Kincaid, I. Noel Hume, and Polly Longworth and other local authors on Tuesday, October 16th at 12:30. Lunch includes Greek salad, soup, beverage and dessert. Cost $6.50 per person. Cash bar available. Special displays, sales, and autographing by area authors.

An Evening at the Library - October 17

Join us Wednesday evening, October 17th from 7-9 to sample International coffees and enjoy authentic New York Cheese Cake catered by the Warwick Cheese Shoppe. A String Ensemble from the York County Community Orchestra will provide the music. Local artists will exhibit and perform throughout the library. Cost $2.00 per person.

An Afternoon in Camelot - October 20

Recreate medieval life with an afternoon on the grounds of the new library complete with personal combat between knights wearing chain mail, helmets, and shields; minstrels; jugglers; scenes from "Camelot"; and even food and drinks for sale from that period. For children of all ages!

Please fill out and return with check. Tickets will be mailed to you.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Author's Luncheon, Cost $6.50 per person

☐ An Evening at the Library, Cost $2.00 per person

Please make checks payable to York Library Donation Account
and mail this form and payment to: York Public Library
P.O. Box 1275
Yorktown, Virginia 23692

Library Grows With York

Two years ago the York County Public Library moved from a storefront location to a new, modern library building and has become a full-service library with growing membership and services.

Since the move 9,000 new members have joined for a total of about 19,000; and about 5,000 books have been added each year for a total of 38,000. Capacity of the library is estimated at 50,000 volumes.

Circulation (the number of items loaned) has increased 19 percent since the move. A circulation record was set in July when 4,569 items were loaned in one week.

Modern Services

The modern library offers more than just books. Computer and microfilm technology as well as audio and video cassettes have enhanced library services.

Last year the library's collection was put on microfilm, allowing it to participate in the Inter-Library Loan program. If York does not have a book, the microfilm list of nearly all Virginia libraries' holdings may locate the wanted book which can be ordered by mail. "We have access to almost any book in print," says Librarian Beverly Dudley.

The Magazine Index is a microfilm listing of magazines by title and subject.

A computer is available for patrons to use after a half-hour instruction course. Many software programs also are available.

A new service at York Library is a collection of books on audio tape. A "reader" can now "listen" to a book at home or even on the road if the car has a tape deck. Music also is available on cassette. A limited collection of movies on video cassettes may be checked out for one week.

Those who have difficulty reading fine print may ask at the desk about a collection of books the library now offers containing large print.

Reference Section Growing

A much larger collection of reference materials is now offered to students and researchers from a variety of encyclopedia, literary criticisms, medical dictionaries, investment books, car repair manuals (which can be taken out with a $5 deposit), State and York County Code books, major telephone books, and a number of business forms (such as Power of Attorney, etc.) that can be duplicated.

Board of Supervisors' minutes, county studies and ordinances also are available in the research section.

Teachers may request the library to hold books on a certain subject in the reference section so that students will be guaranteed resources on the current study topic.

Local History Room

A unique service is the Local History room. Donations are sought of local family histories, old photos of York County, old issues of the William and Mary Quarterly, and any other materials that document York's history.

Other Services

The library offers many free workshops, lectures, and seminars on topics ranging from investments to the use of cosmetics as a service to the community.

A meeting room that seats 60 may be used free by community organizations. A library newsletter is published bi-monthly and is available free at the library. About 200 children participated in this summer's reading program which strives to help children retain reading skills over the summer.



STAFFERS ROBIN CORLEY AND NORMA COLTON RETURN SOME OF THE 38,000 VOLUMES TO THE STACKS.

Staff

In addition to Mrs. Dudley, the staff consists of nine full-time or part-time members plus six student pages and many volunteers who donate about 250 hours each month.

Guiding operations at the library is the Library Board, appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Library Board members are: Mrs. Elizabeth Rogers, Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes, Eric Sheriff, Mrs. Cynthia S. Peters, and Robert Desmarais.

Future Plans

Plans call for additional hours on Sunday afternoon and for adding a children's librarian sometime in December.

York County Public Library Hours

Monday-Thursday	10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Holiday Events Scheduled

Holiday activities at the library include parties and movies for the whole family:

December 10, 15, 17, 22 family Christmas movies will be shown in the evenings.

December 16 a family Christmas party will include singing carols accompanied by an ensemble from the York River Community Orchestra. Also short videos for children and refreshments will be featured.

December 20 a children's Christmas party will include Christmas crafts, Christmas movies and, of course, goodies. Pre-registration is required, beginning December 1. Time: 1-2:30 p.m.

Beginning in January, Friends of the Library will show classic films.

For more information see the library's newsletter or call 898-0077. The library is located on Route 17 at Harrod Lane.

YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY BOARD

Pencelia D. Nichols, Chmn.
Diane H. Holland, V-Chmn.
Amanda McLean
Elizabeth C. Rogers
Eric Sheriff

ARCHITECTS

Caro, Monroe, and Liang

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Hudgins Construction Co.

LIBRARIAN

Beverly Dudley

INTERIOR DESIGN

Michaels Associates

SITE

The library is located on approximately four acres of land donated to York County by the late Mr. Leslie O'Hara.

BUILDING LAYOUT

In addition to the main library stack area, the York County Public Library includes a local history room, a children's area, a cataloging and processing center, and a multi-purpose room. The multi-purpose room has a projection booth and a built-in screen, storage for tables and chairs, and an adjacent kitchenette.

The 11,900 square foot facility will house 50,000 volumes, and provide seating for 75 adult library users and 25 children. In addition to the traditional library seating there are reading alcoves along the south wall.

The building is designed to be fully accessible to the physically handicapped.

INTERIOR DESIGN

Book stacks are arranged in a diagonal pattern for ease in circulation and visual control. The color scheme was selected to respect the colonial heritage of the area, and to harmonize with the natural materials used throughout the library. The colors are coordinated to provide quiet and restful surroundings and form a backdrop to the books, which will give most of the color and texture to the interior environment.

LIGHTING

Interior lighting is supplied by both natural and artificial means. A large north-facing clerestory brings indirect and consistent daylight into the middle of the building. Along the south side of the building, large windows facing east-southeast provide the same kind of diffused light.

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

Heat pumps and fans located in the mechanical equipment room provide heating and air conditioning. The air is conveyed by large exposed round ducts and a hidden return air system at the clerestory. Initial calculations project the facility to operate with energy usage approximately 25% below similar buildings in this climate.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS

The building's structural system is laminated post-and-beam construction with solid timber decking. All the exterior walls are 6" frame construction with masonry veneer, heavily insulated and reinforced. The roof system is level, but tapered insulation ranging from 3½" to 9½" provides positive drainage. The roof membrane is a single sheet of EDPM, a rubber compound, with approximately 9 pounds per square foot of stone ballast.

SERVICES

A wide range of services, including children's programs, interlibrary loans, photo-copying, computer use, tape cassetes, video games, video cassettes, cameras, reference, large print books, and large basic collections for educational and recreational reading, will be offered to library patrons.

Page P/YC 1 - Daily Press and the Times-Herald 10-3-84



New library off to busy start

By KATHY WILLIAMSON
Staff Writer

Open for only a short time, York County's new public library building is already a beehive of activity.

On a recent Monday, more than 800 people visited the library with 43 new people registering for cards. "That's great for a Monday," says Penny Nichols, chairwoman of the library board.

Heavy traffic in the library probably will continue as the new wood and beam building settles into its daily routine.

The 11,900-square foot library will house 50,000 volumes and provide seating for 75 adult and 25 children library users. There also are reading alcoves along the south wall.

The basic equipment and supplies are there for the library, but donations are welcomed for extras the budget doesn't cover. Money received so far will be used for benches and bike rack outdoors. A microwave and refrigerator are in the kitchen, but there is still a need for a large coffee maker and serving cups for the room. Also, plants could be used for the interior planters arriving soon.

Please see Library, Page 2

Library

Continued from Page 1

The library has an "outstanding" projection room, says Mrs. Nichols, which needs audio visual equipment. The Friends of the Library has been collecting money for a computer, which will be in place by Oct. 15.

Grand opening ceremonies for the library will be held Oct. 14 at 3 p.m., when the York County Board of Supervisors and other county officials will do the honors. The choral ensemble from Tabb High School will perform, and there will be a self-guided tour of the library.

Other opening celebration activities include:

• Author's luncheon — 12:30 p.m. Oct. 16 at Nick's Seafood Pavilion, cash bar at noon. Authors such as Jim Kincaid, I. Noel Hume and Polly Longworth will speak, and other authors like Lucy O'Hara, whose family donated the land for the library, will also be there to autograph and sell their books. The cost is $6.50 per person; seating is limited to 160.

• An evening at the library — 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 17 to sample 15 types of international coffees and New York cheesecake catered by the Warwick Cheese Shoppe. A string ensemble from the York County Community Orchestra will perform, and artists from On The Hill will display their work. Cost is $2 per person; attendance is unlimited.

• An afternoon in Camelot — On Oct. 20, a re-creation of medieval life on the grounds of the new library will feature jousting knights, minstrels, jugglers, scenes from "Camelot," and food and drink from the period for sale. "It's primarily for children but will be nice enough for everyone to enjoy," says Mrs. Nichols.

Donations to the library for the "extras" it needs or payment for the celebration events can be made by making checks payable to the York Library Donation Account and mailing payment to York Public Library, P.O. Box 1275, Yorktown 23692. Flyers outlining the celebration events include a form to be filled out for people wanting to attend the luncheon or the evening at the library. The flyers have been distributed throughout the county.

Mrs. Nichols recently attended the first Frontiers Conference sponsored by the Public Library Association, a division of the American Library Association and the University of Wisconsin-Extension Communication Programs/Library and Information Science. Meeting people associated with a cross section of library experiences gave Mrs. Nichols insight as to how various libraries function. For instance, the public library in Denver, Colo., found it advantageous to purchase and circulate small $30 Timex computers before installing its large computer. "This allowed people to become familiar with working with computers and helped on the wear and tear of the large computer when it was put in," she says.

After talking with library representatives about funding procedures in their areas, Mrs. Nichols has decided, "we're lucky in York County. Pennsylvania, for example, gets help from the United Way and has a very small budget with not much help from the government. The woman I talked to has to rely on sales and donations, even to pay salaries; she really has a struggle. Here, we get state aid and support from York County."

Always looking for feasible, affordable ways to reach more people with library services, the York County Public Library is planning to offer books-by-mail for those who can't come to the library. Some libraries provide this service through the Meals on Wheels program, says Mrs. Nichols. She also heard about other libraries that are extending outreach programs to places like nursing homes and hospitals. York County's Jail Outreach program has been very successful, she says. Four years ago, the public library set up a library of paperbacks and magazines at the county jail, and its use has been steadily increasing.

The county provides library services for northern residents by paying $30,000 annually to the Williamsburg Regional Library for its availability to residents who live closer to it than the Route 17 facility. "In essence, it's a branch library for northern county people," says Mrs. Nichols.

For more information, contact the library at 898-0077.



Staff photo by DENNIS TENNANT

Penny Nichols is chairman of the library board.

Volunteers started library in rented house

Originally a project of the York County Volunteer Association, the York County Public Library began as a result of great community effort.

It began operating in September 1968 in an old rented house on Route 17 in Grafton. Books, shelving, furniture and labor were all donated, with Nancy Deskins heading an all-volunteer staff.

When the volunteers didn't have enough money to renew the lease on the building, the county Board of Supervisors came up with the money to renew it for one year. Then, in 1971, the library was moved to an old post office building in the Grafton Shopping Center. The governing body paid the rent and utilities and a nominal fee for Beverly Dudley to take charge.

By 1975, the library had outgrown the building space, and an addition was constructed. It nearly doubled the size of the facility into an awkward 20- by 125-foot space.

In 1976, a library Board of Trustees was appointed, in accordance with Virginia law, and State Library support was obtained once local income met state requirements.

In 1978, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Thomsen were instrumental in forming a Friends of the Library group which has raised money for a number of library needs — including the new computer.

Patronage continued to grow, along with the library's collection. It soon became obvious a larger and properly designed building was needed. After much discussion of various methods of financing the library, the county Board of Supervisors decided to place a bond referendum on the ballot in November 1981. The referendum passed easily.

Next came a lengthy search for a suitable site. The supervisors finally and gratefully accepted the four-acre site donated by the late Leslie O'Hara. During the next two years, plans were developed, architects selected, a construction company hired and — in September 1983 — ground was broken.

VG 10-20-84

New library opening filmed

A 20-minute program on the opening of the York County Library will be aired seven times during the next two weeks on Channel 36, the government information channel.

The program includes the ribbon cutting ceremony held Oct. 14, a tour of the library interior, and a history of the library. Ruritan members Jim Funk and John Lawson were the volunteer cameramen. The program was produced and edited by the Information Office.

The airing schedule is: Tuesday, Oct. 23, following the 7 p.m. board of supervisors meeting; Tuesday, Oct. 30, 3 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 2, 3 p.m.; Tuesday, Nov. 6, 3 p.m., and again following the 7 p.m. board meeting.

Authors to speak at luncheon

Jim Kincaid, Ivor Noel Hume and Polly Longsworth, noted area authors, will speak at an Author Luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 16 in Nick's Seafood Pavilion in Yorktown.

The luncheon is part of opening week activities for the new York County Public Library on Route 17.

Other area writers and organizations expected to attend, autograph books and sell signed copies of their books include August F. Crabtree, Lucy O'Hara, Louis Catron, Arthur and Jone Cone, Willis F. Cox and Guy Fridell; area cookbook writers Joan McCormick, Marian Bowditch, Grace Episcopal Church Women and the Comte de Grasse Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

Books on display at the luncheon may be purchased for the York County Public Library by individuals and organizations. A bookplate naming the donor will be placed in each book. All gifts are tax-deductible.

Luncheon arrangements have been made by Jean Kirkham and Ann Bland.

The cost of the luncheon is $6.50 per person. Seating is limited and reservations will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. Monday is the registration deadline.

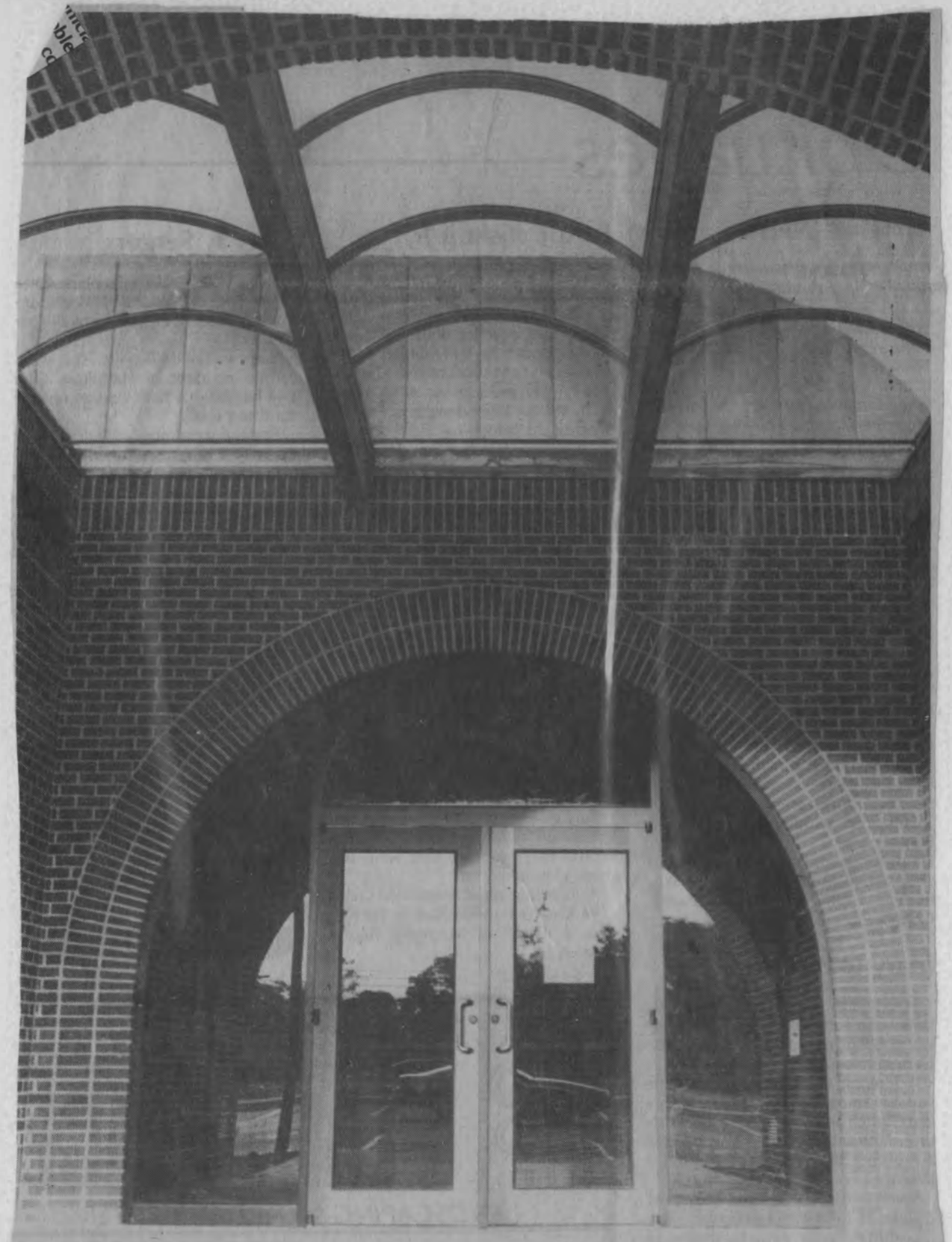
To register, send a check payable to the York Public Library to the library at P.O. Box 1572, Grafton 23692, in time to make Monday's deadline. Call 898-0077.



Staff photo by THOM SLATER

York's new library

Among those touring York County's new public library after its dedication Sunday afternoon is Lucy O'Hara (seated), who donated land for the building. She said she was "amazed" by the spaciousness of the one-story brick structure, which is the new home to the county's 30,000 volumes. It replaces cramped quarters in a Grafton Shopping Center storefront. The library features 11,900 square feet, with a community room and space for 50,000 books. The dedication week celebration continues Tuesday, when local authors Jim Kincaid, Ivor Noel Hume and Polly Longsworth meet for a luncheon. For more information, call 898-0077.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

10/12/84

Library's grand opening

The new York County Public Library will celebrate its grand opening this week, beginning with a ribbon-cutting Sunday at 3pm and continuing with a luncheon Tuesday, an evening reception Wednesday and an "Afternoon at Camelot" Saturday. A complete calendar of events, memoirs of earlier storefront days for the library and a guide to the new library are featured in this week's "Eye" entertainment section, pages B2-B7.











With my sincere
Congratulations for your
wisdom in building
this House of Learning
Mrs. Nick Mathews











An Evening at the library



Mime musicians Eric Rew and Stephanie Kelley play along with real musical artists Peggy Hadden and Jim Hadden.

Books, music, artists herald its grand opening



Quiet reading areas in the new library attract young and old looking for tempting books and magazines. Regan and Charles McLean check out the cheesecake and international coffee selections while Leslie Fulcher of First Colonial Coffee and Tea makes sure the table is kept in good supply.



A gala celebration of activities to highlight the opening of the new York Public Library included "An Evening at the Library." A string ensemble from the York County Community Orchestra provided backdrop music while library visitors enjoyed artists and international treats. Colin Castagnola took time out to read by himself, and others enjoyed the decorative paper art of K. Franklin Spoor. The 11,900-square-foot library houses 50,000 volumes and provides seating for 75 adult and 25 children users. The Friends of the Library recently gave the library a computer.

YORK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Opening Celebration

An Evening at the New Library

Wednesday, October 17, 1984

Time 7 to 9 *Admit One*

Library board makes policy

Policy and management for the library is under the control of the library Board of Trustees which consists of five members.

Members are appointed by the board of supervisors and serve four-year (staggered) terms. They may serve two consecutive terms.

By tradition, each member usually resides in a different election district, although there is no legal requirement for this.

Diane Holland, vice-chairman, and Amanda McLean both complete their first terms of office on the board at the end of this year. Pencelia Nichols, chairman, completes her second term at the end of 1985; Elizabeth Rogers her second term in 1986; and Eric Sheriff his second term in 1987.

Board members serve without compensation. The board generally meets once a month - when a new library is not being planned and built.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the York County Library is a volunteer group formed to focus public attention on the library, encourage volunteer help, sponsor children's activities, and raise funds for library equipment and furnishings.

The Friends was organized in 1977 with Tom and Kristina Thomsen as joint chairmen. Succeeding chairmen have been Tom and Shirley Walton, Jackie Ingram, Marge Harris, June Smoot and Eugene Cervi.

The Friends purchased cushions and a rug for the children's area of the old library, and a children's table and stools, which are still being used at the new library.

Members of the Friends have donated refreshments and decorations and provided entertainment for children's parties.

Their most recent gift to the library is an Apple IIe computer which will be available for public use.

A Friends newsletter is issued several times a year, to keep members up to date with library programs and Friends' activities. Funds are raised through dues and sales of used books.

Dues are $3 a year for individuals and $5 for families and organizations. Membership applications are available at the library.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

A happy staff, from left: Charlotte Owens, Faye Boston, Beverly Dudley, Robin Corley, Janice Ward, Claire Stifft, Norma Colton.

Staff isn't crowded anymore

Here's a look at the York library staff.

Librarian **Beverly Dudley** met her husband while teaching in dependent schools in Orleans, France. After three (intermittent) tours at Fort Monroe, they decided the Peninsula was there destiny and settled and retired here. She began her relationship with the library as a volunteer in 1969 because of a love of books and some college experience. She has taken library science courses since then whenever the opportunity presented itself, and completed her master's degree in library and information science from Catholic University in 1982.

Assistant Librarian **Norma Colton** knew what she wanted fairly early in her training. She graduated from Millersville University with a major in library science. After serving as a high school librarian in York, Pa., for six years, she joined the York County staff in 1978. In a sense it was a homecoming for her, for she and her parents had been York County residents some time ago. She received her master's degree in library and information science from Catholic University in 1982.

Cataloguer **Claire Stifft**, a graduate of George Washington University, came to the Peninsula when her retired Air Force husband was hired to teach ROTC in the Hampton schools. They subsequently retired in York County, and Mrs. Stifft joined the library staff in 1973. She brings a wealth of training and experience to her job -- she has served as a volunteer or a member of the staff of many libraries, including the Library of Congress. Although she spends the bulk of her time in classifying books, her interest in history -- along with a memory for details -- make her a valuable source of help for those seeking assistance with that topic, especially York County history.

Janice Ward, head of circulation, brings an especially wide variety of training and experience to the library staff. Graduating from the University of Illinoise with a degree in chemistry and math, she took some graduate work in psychology from The College of William and Mary, was a Girl Scout leader for 10 years, and has instructed a variety of Red Cross and crafts classes. In joining the library staff she has returned to her love of libraries that paid her way through college as a student employee.

Acquisitions and circulation clerk **Robin Corley** graduated from Christopher Newport College, where she too, helped finance her education by working in the college library. Ms. Corley lives in Poquoson – except for the times she is following her love of camping and backpacking in the mountains of western Virginia.

Reference librarian **Charlotte Owens** joined the regular library staff this summer, although she had been a volunteer during both her Air Force husband's tours at Langley. Charlotte graduated from the University of Rochester and taught school a short while, but after the hiatus which ended with the youngest of her three children enrolled in school, she turned to her love of libraries and began volunteering and taking library science courses. Mrs. Owens is eagerly awaiting the day when the hoped-for added staff will allow her to become the reference librarian in fact; she is presently needed at the circulation desk, and the reference desk is not staffed.

Secretary **Joyce Faye Boston** is a native Texan. She and her family came to the Peninsula when Amoco brought them here to have her husband take the job of environmental control and safety superintendent for their York County plant. Mrs. Boston attended Prairie View University, studying library services and business administration, and joined the library staff in 1980.

You will often find the three high school pages -- **David Powell, Karen Wills** and **Sherry Mietz** – struggling in stacks pushing a loaded book truck, although they can also be found behind the circulation desk, in the work room, or anywhere else they're needed. All are students at York High. David joined the staff 10 months ago and is the senior page; Karen and Sherry have been on the staff just since the move to the new library.

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featured in this issue

Besides books, there're periodicals, a computer and video cassettes

Periodicals are the major new materials addition to York County's new library.

More than 75 magazine titles have begun arriving at the library, and back issues for 1984 have been provided by library members.

Also, in addition to five local newspapers, the library has begun receiving the Richmond, Washington and (Sunday) New York papers – as well as the Wall Street Journal, Barron's Weekly and USA Today.

The Reader's Guide is now available for use with periodicals, along with a new tool, the Magazine Index. This index is in a special, motorized microfilm viewer which is easy to use and is already popular with patrons.

New business information sources which should arrive soon are Dun and Bradstreet's "Million Dollar Directory;" Standard & Poor's "Corporation Records," "Stock Guide" and "Bond Guide;" and the "Value Line Investment Survey."

Although the library did not add a large new collection of books for the new facility, it will continue adding 300 new titles each month, as it did before.

Librarian Beverly Dudley said most first-time visitors to the new library are surprised to see how large the book collection appears, now that there is room to shelve it adequately.

Not brand-new, but a fairly recent addition to the library's services is its video cassette collection.

Present policies are to provide both VHS and Beta cassettes of each title, to purchase only movies rated "G" or "PG," and to loan them for one week. These policies may change if the need becomes apparent.

There is no charge for the loan, but a $10 deposit is required to become a video borrower and obtain a video borrower's card. A person must be 18 to join, may borrow only one tape at a time, and will receive the deposit back when the borrower's card is returned permanently.

On Oct. 10, the Friends of the Library presented a new Apple IIe computer, with printer, to the library for patron use.

Orientation sessions will be announced soon. Patrons who attend will have their membership cards stamped and will be eligible to book the computer on a first-come, first-serve basis.

A small software collection will be available for patrons to use with the computer. This collection will grow as the needs and interests of the users are determined.

Because of the increasing use of microforms to store information, the library will soon purchase a microfilm/microfiche reader/printer. Those wishing to consult college catalogs will then be able to view a microfiche collection of catalogs and will be able to print out whatever portions they wish for a small fee.

Genealogical reords may be borrowed from the state library, or other sources, and then viewed and/or printed also. Because of space limitations, back issues of magazines probably will eventually have to be stored on microfilm or microfiche, providing another use for the new equipment.

A new policy of shelving juvenile nonfiction books amongst the adult nonfiction has expanded the nonfiction collection available to both children and adults.

Mrs. Dudley said a number of libraries are already pleased with this arrangement and more wish they could do it, but are prevented by their buildings' limitations.

"If a child is ready to use an adult book, it's sitting there, side-by-side, and if an adult wants a brief overview of a subject, often a children's book provides it without the embarrassment of going to the children's shelves," she explained.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

Matthew Muffelman tries out a reading "cozy."



All of us at
Caro, Monroe and Liang Architects
wish the citizens of York County
many happy returns
to the new library.

Storefront gypsies gave service with a smile

by Margaret Cubberly
York Town Crier

The only people I'd heard about who hung out in storefronts were gypsies. When I moved to York County eight years ago, I never expected to find a public library sandwiched between a dry cleaner and an ABC store.

Libraries were supposed to be ornate Carnegie monuments in the city and neat brick buildings in the suburbs. This funny-looking little storefront in Grafton couldn't be much of a library.

Well, I was wrong. The old library didn't have much space, the budget didn't allow for enough staff (it still doesn't) or enough books, and the librarians tripped over each other in a cramped work space. But when it came to service, never have so few helped so many so well.

Claire Stifft could always dig out an obscure bit of Virginia history, Norma Colton recommended good children's books, Robin Corley kept me up to date on the latest fantasy novels, and librarian Beverly Dudley kept me abreast of current issues.

The staff always managed to smile, even when their workload became impossible, and I never saw anyone treated discourteously.

That ABC store alongside became a standing joke for some of us. When the Hampton Roads Science Fiction Association met at the library in the late '70s, we used to kid about tunneling through the wall for refreshments.

Bill Tangney, editor emeritus of the Town Crier, once editorialized about placing no blame on the librarians if they actually did seek solace next door, given their frustrations about working conditions.

My fondest memories of the old library date from a two-year stint as a storyteller there. Crowded together in the reading area, the children and I would whoop it up with fairy tales and movie cartoons, while adults attempted to sneak past us in the dark to the fiction shelves.

The old library was a hassle for the staff and inadequate in many ways, but it had a kind of homey intimacy.

"It was cozy," my 10-year-old daughter says regretfully. "The new library is so open, and there are so many people."

I know the beauty and spaciousness of the new library will grow on her. Just wait until she sees the free-standing reading nooks in the children's room. They're called – what else? – "cozies."

The librarians aren't storefront gypsies anymore, but only the building has changed. The service and the smiles are the same.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

Markie Major, left, shows a fascinating picture to brother Ben at the library. Both are Seaford Elementary School students.

Room houses local history

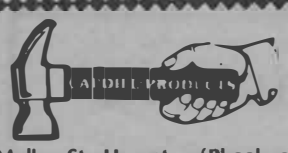
The library's collection of local history and genealogy is housed in the Local History Room, a quiet room with a large table for use by researchers. A magnifying lamp is provided for help with small-print books.

The book collection contains many old and out-of-print books by and about Virginians, with emphasis on the history of York County and its neighboring communities. Many of the books are for reference only, and must be used in the library, but others may be checked out.

Bessie Ironmonger and her daughter, Thelma Hansford, have donated much of their work, both published and unpublished, in genealogy and local history.

The library board is sponsoring an oral history project which will also be housed here.

A pamphlet file is being organized to hold loose materials and clippings. Two glass-fronted bookcases will hold rare books or special displays.


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People power

From the beginning, library was a grassroots institution

by Virginia Gabriele
York Town Crier

YORKTOWN – As York County's new $90,000 public library was getting the finishing touches for its Sunday ribbon-cutting ceremony, volunteers under the direction of county Extension Agent Jim Orband were planting trees, shrubs and grass around the building.

It was no coincidence the landscaping work was being done by volunteers. From its beginning in 1968, the library has been a people project.

Everything about the first library was volunteer -- the books, the shelving, the furniture and the staff.

The library opened on Sept. 7, 1968, in an old rented house next to the miniature golf course on Route 17 in Grafton as a project of the York County Volunteer Association. Its goal: "to improve the education of the community."

Many county organizations, including the Jaycees, Lions, Kiwanis, Homemakers, high school Key and Keyette clubs and Scouts, helped set up that first library.

When the doors opened, librarian Nancy Deskins and her staff had managed to catalogue about 1,500 of the 4,000 donated books (about half were "Reader's Digest Condensed Books").

Circulation the first year was 5,000 books.

Before Mrs. Deskins left in June 1970, she persuaded the county to pay rent and utilities for the library and to pay the babysitting costs of the new librarian, Beverly Dudley. But the rest of the staff was still volunteer, and books came by donation.

When the county rented the old post office building in the Grafton Shopping Center in 1971, it was volunteers who moved the library across the highway.

And it was volunteers who continued providing books until 1974 when the county budgeted money for book purchases.

A year later, the library was so busy and so cramped, its size was doubled by an addition on the back. Circulation had jumped 685 percent from 1969, and many of the staff were still volunteers. All the children's programs were done by volunteers.

A formal volunteer group, the Friends of the York County Public Library, was organized in 1977 with Tom and Kristina Thomsen serving as joint chairmen. Its mission then and now has been to focus public attention on the library, encourage volunteer help, sponsor children's activities, and raise funds for equipment and furnishings.

By 1978, county support had grown enough so that the library met state standards for size, books and staff and therefore qualified for state aid.



York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

4-H volunteers level out dirt piles in preparation for sod planting on library grounds.

But the books and the people kept coming – more than 20,000 books in 2,500 square feet of space with an annual circulation of 130,000 by 1980. Regular patrons knew not to come during children's story hour because they knew they couldn't fit in the door.

Library board Chairman Elizabeth Rogers asked the county planning commission and board of supervisors to consider building a new library in fiscal 1982. But both groups decided there were other, more pressing needs for capital expenditures.

So library supporters went to the voters. Library board members and the Friends of the Library secured enough signatures to put a bond referendum for a new library on the ballot for the November 1981 election. Then they launched their own campaign, all with volunteer workers and funds, to secure passage of the $900,000 referendum.

The result is the new building, built on land donated by the late Leslie O'Hara.

The new library opened its doors on Sept. 10, but it needs its people power as much as ever.

The volunteer association still sends the library $25 a month.

And volunteers are needed for the extras and frills. The Friends have donated an Apple IIe computer and printer for patron use.

And volunteers planted the trees after landscaping was one of several items jettisoned when ground preparation costs proved much larger than anticipated.

The dedication program says, "This library is provided by and for the citizens of the County of York as a community resource to satisfy the thirst for knowledge and to contribute to improved quality of life for all York County citizens."

There are a lot of people out there who helped make it possible.

Meeting room

The new library's meeting room is already quite busy. It is generally available to any group for non-commercial purposes.

The multi-purpose room can seat 64, and has a projection booth and built-in screen, storage for tables and chairs and an adjacent kitchenette.

THe room is available whenever the library is open for business. There is no fee for its use, but the group using it is responsible for damages. The group must also supply its own projectionist.

Only one meeting may be scheduled at a time.

Copies of the complete guidelines and application forms are available at the library.



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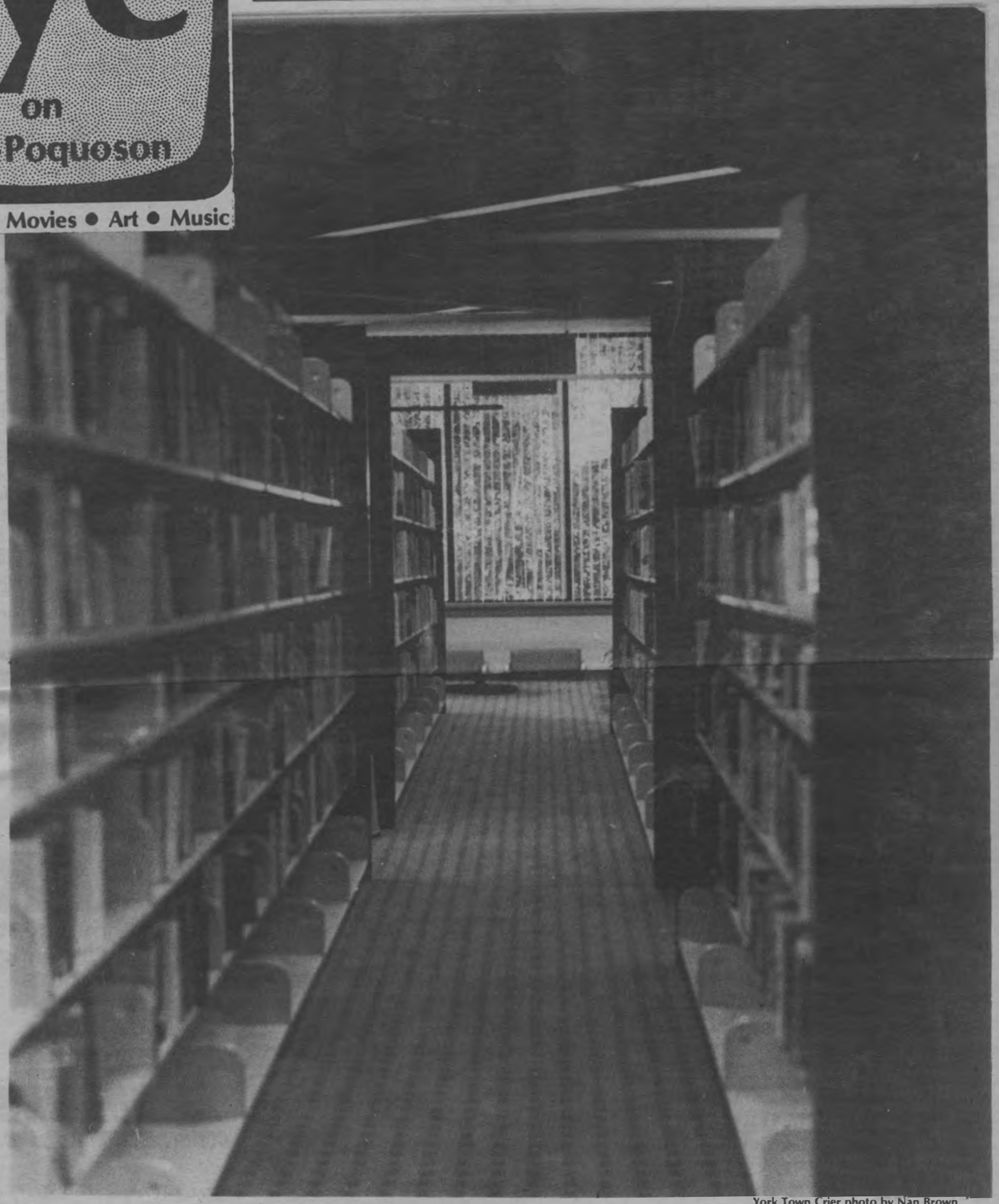
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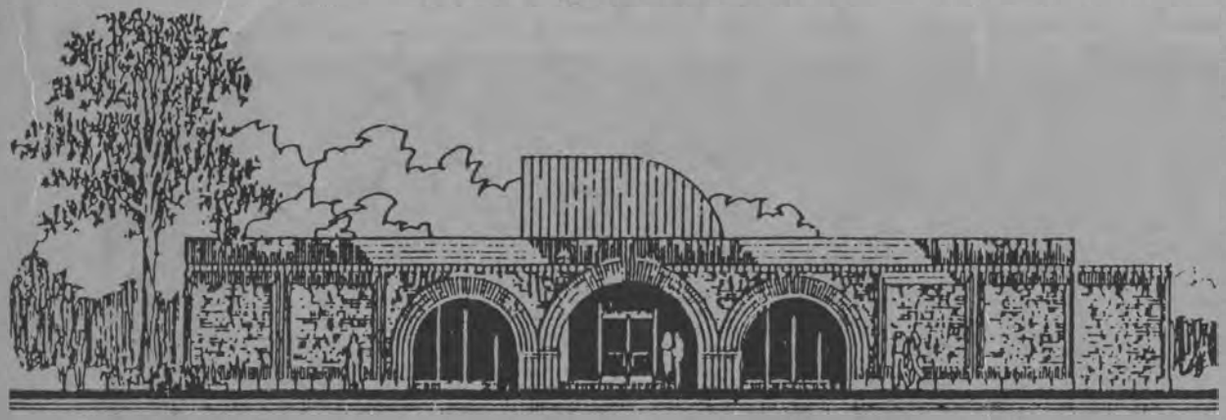


York Town Crier photo by Nan Brown

A people's project. That's the new York County Public Library: planned, lobbied for and brought to fruition by citizens determined to open wide the door of learning for York's future generations. As the new library prepares for its week-long grand opening next week, the York Town Crier devotes this special issue of the EYE to telling its story, pages B2-6. TV listings start on B7; "What's Happening," B20.

A weekly supplement to the
YORK TOWN CRIER
Thursday, October 11, 1984

Celebrating a new library



Brick and wood dominate

The new library is a one-story brick building designed by Caro, Monroe and Liang architects and built by Hudgins Construction Co.

The 11,900-square-foot facility is designed to house 50,000 volumes and provide seating for 75 adult library users and 25 children. Its design in 1982 was intended to meet the county's library needs for a decade.

Natural light enters through large arched windows in the front of the building, large windows facing south-southeast, and a north-facing clerestory over the center of the building.

The color scheme blends shades of blue and burgundy with natural wood through the interior.

Book stacks are arranged in a diagonal pattern, and are separated into areas of fiction, non-fiction, periodicals and reference. In addition to the main stack area, there is a separate children's area and a local history room.

In addition to the traditional library seating, there are reading alcoves along the south wall, rocking chairs and special chairs for children.

Here's a list of events planned for the York County Public Library's grand-opening week.

The Grand Opening on Sunday, Oct. 14 will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony at **3pm** and will continue with a flag ceremony, a tour of the library, and a catered reception.

An Authors' luncheon will be held **Tuesday, Oct. 16, at Nick's Seafood Pavilion in Yorktown at 12:30pm.** Area writers Jim Kincaid, Ivor Noel Hume and Polly Longworth will speak, and other local authors will display, sell and autograph their works. Those interested in attending the luncheon may make reservations by calling the library at 898-0077. The cost is $6.50 per person, and seating is limited.

On Wednesday, Oct. 17, the library will host "An Evening at the Library" from 7 to 9pm. The event will be catered by the Warwick Cheese Shoppe, which will serve international coffees and New York cheesecake. Music will be provided by the York River Community Orchestra's string ensemble. Exhibits and performances by local artists will top off the evening. Refreshments will cost $2 per person.

On Saturday, Oct. 20, the final celebration activity will take place at the library with **"An Afternoon at Camelot."** The program will **begin at 11am** with songs by minstrel Richard Follett and stories by storyteller Margaret Cubberly about dragons, unicorns and other creatures from fantasyland. In mid-afternoon, knights in shining armor will give combat demonstrations in the "natural amphitheater" at the back of the library. Refreshments reminiscent of medieval life will be sold.





Celebrating the library

The York County Public Library celebrated its grand opening this week, beginning with a ribbon-cutting Sunday afternoon by Chairman Rodgers Smith of the York County Board of Supervisors and with music by the Tabb High School Show Choir. The library's arched windows, above, reflected the crowd. Below, Bertie Flowers, left, Margaret Butyn and Nan Knox sip punch in the afternoon sun. The festivities continued with an authors' luncheon Tuesday at Nick's Seafood Pavilion where Virginian-Pilot columnist and author Guy Friddell, right, joined Jim Kincaid, Ivor Noel Hume, Polly Longworth and other local authors. A medieval fair is set for this Saturday **(see page B23).**





Medieval fair slated for York County's library grounds

The grounds of the York County Public Library will be transformed into the setting for a medieval fair Saturday as minstrels and knights in battle gear re-create the atmosphere of King Arthur's legendary Camelot.

"An Afternoon in Camelot" is the final program for the week-long celebration commemorating the opening of York County's new library on Route 17 and Harrod Lane.

Costumed knights and their ladies from the Peninsula's Society for Medieval Studies will gather in the wooded area behind the library at 11 a.m.

A song and story program for children, featuring singer and guitarist Rich Follett and storyteller Margaret Cubberly, will be presented at 11 a.m. in the library's meeting room.

Meat pies, cider and almond cakes provided by the Yorktown Arts Foundation will go on sale at noon.

Events scheduled for the afternoon include:

- Noon to 1 p.m. — Songs and madrigals by minstrel Rich Follett.
- 1 to 1:30 p.m. — Selections from the Lerner and Loewe musical, "Camelot," performed by elementary students from the Extend Center at York High School.
- 1:30 to 4 p.m. — Demonstrations of medieval combat, entertainment and encounters with nobles, barbarians and Mongols from the Golden Horde.

In case of rain, all events except the combat demonstrations will be held in the library.



and THE TIMES-HERALD, Newport News, Va., Wednesday, Oct. 31, 1984





Staff photos by BUDDY NORRIS

In days of old

Part of the recent celebrations in honor of the opening of York County's new library included a medieval fair, complete with knights in combat. Frank Yost and Ron Carignan battle it out, in hopes of impressing the "Dutchess" Jane Burianek. At left is Harold Wood.















A Partial Listing
of
Area Writers

Prepared for
Author Luncheon
October 16, 1984



A Partial Listing
of
Area Writers

Prepared for
Author Luncheon
October 16, 1984

BAKER, James W.
100 St. George Blvd.
Williamsburg, VA 23185

BROWN, Charlotte H. (Mrs. R.M.)
115 Olin Drive
Newport News, VA 23602

BOWDITCH, Marian
Box 531
Yorktown, VA 23690

CATRON, Louis E.
Dept. of Theatre, W & M
Williamsburg, VA 23185

CLIFFORD, Mary Louise
109 Shellbank Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23185

CONE, Joan & Arthur
Box 242
Williamsburg, VA 23502

COX, Willis
James Store, VA 23080

CRABTREE, August F.
Box 458, Rt. 1
Hampton, Va 23666

CRAWFORD, Annie Laurie
Box 616
Yorktown, VA 23690

DICKERSON, Jan
Rt. 9, Box 294
Williamsburg, VA 23185

EASLER, Anthony
Box C
Williamsburg, Va 23185

ESLER, Carol Clemeau
1523 Jamestown Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185

FRIDDELL, Guy
150 Branbleton Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23510

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
Box 123
Yorktown, VA 23690

HERMES, Patricia
3036 Princess Anne Cres.
Norfolk, VA 23504

HUME, Noel
Box C
Williamsburg, Va 23185

KINCAID, Jim
1930 E. Pembroke Ave.
Hampton, VA 23663

KING, Dr. Patricia
1819 Nickerson Blvd.
Hampton, VA 23663

KYLE, Louisa Venable
Westminister Canterbury #628
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

LONGSWORTH, Polly
Coke-Garrett House
Williamsburg, VA 23185

4486 Rt. 134
Tabb, VA 23602

O'HARA, Lucy
Box 491
Yorktown, VA 23690

PATTERSON, Katherine
1214 Rockbridge Ave.
Norfolk, Va 23508

ROUSE, Parke
14 Bayberry Lane
Williamsburg, VA 23185

SWINDLER, William
Marshall-Wythe School of Law
Williamsburg, VA 23185

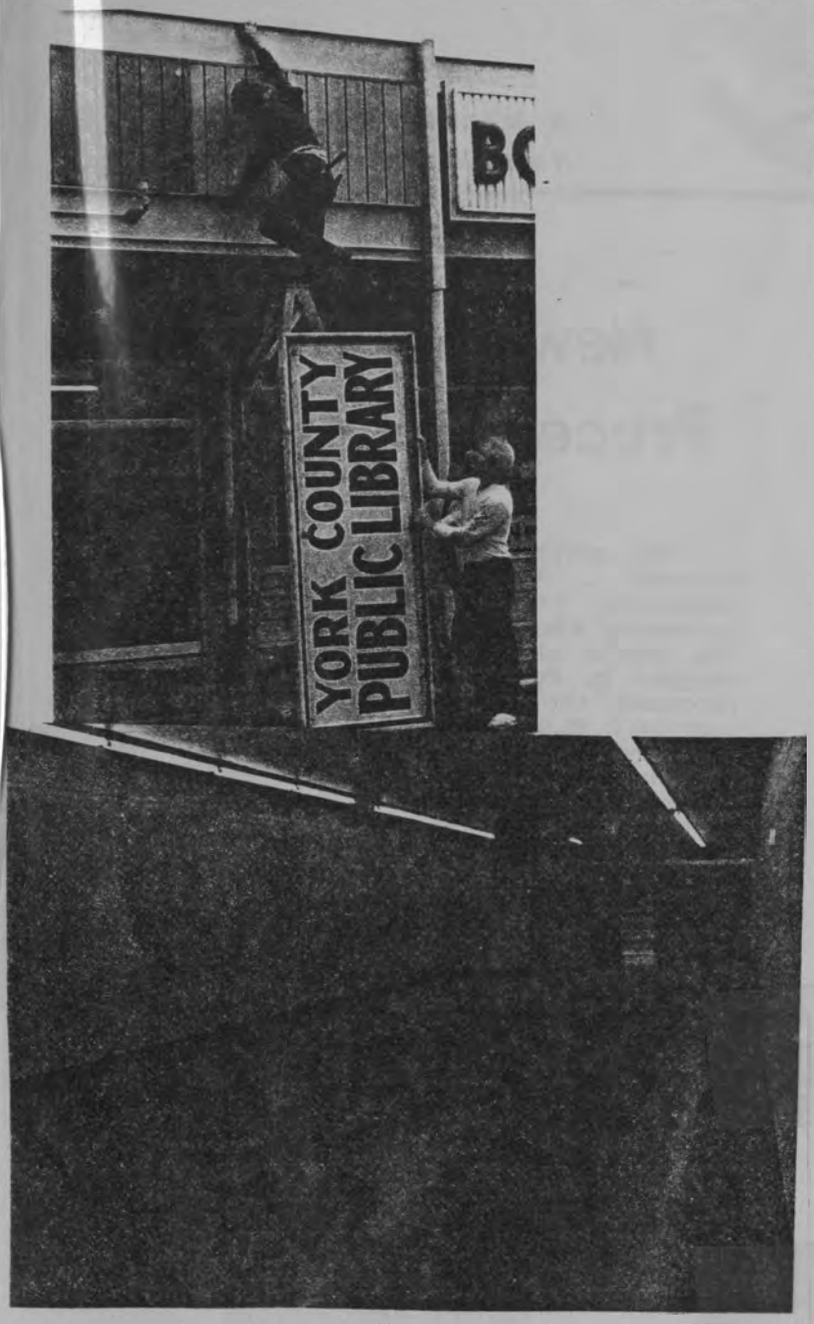
WHITE, Omar
210 Laurel Path Road
Yorktown, VA 23692

TOLAN, Stephanie
845 Wedgewood Court
Norfolk, VA 23502

WILKINS, Skip
2104 Cocoa Circle
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

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Library's Opening A Success



Not only Library staff members, but also PW&U staffers have been busy with the opening of the new Library and closing of the old one. Here RON TOOPS and MIKE GARDNER take down the old sign at the Grafton Shoppng Center. The former site was painted and cleaned "spic and span" before terminating the lease.

by Clare Stifft

If you didn't turn up at the new library on Sunday, Oct. 14, you missed an important and happy York County event.

The new library has been a scene of furious activity ever since it opened, especially during the week before the Grand Opening celebration, when Jim Orband and a crew of workers from Leisure Services and Public Works, aided by Mr. Eugene Cervi, and a hardworking bunch of volunteers, dug and planted, seeded and sodded to finish the extensive landscaping in time for the ceremony.

On Sunday, nearly everybody who had had anything to do with building the library was present, along with a large turnout of interested citizens. The sun shone, the flags waved, the Tabb High Show Choir sang, fittingly, "The Impossible Dream." Supervisors' Chairman RODGERS SMITH cut the ribbon, and everyone trouped in to enjoy refreshments and to admire the library and the beautiful flower arrangements given by Mary Mathews, Freeman Florist, and the Yorktown Flower Shoppe.

On Tuesday, the next "special event" in our celebration week, the Authors' Luncheon at Nick's Seafood Pavilion, was another sellout, with a few more people than the planned 160 limit. A number of local authors were there, many with their books to autograph or to sell. Some of their books were donated as door prizes or to the library. Speakers Polly Longsworth and Noel Hume of Williamsbrug, and Jim Kincaid of TV fame, instructed and entertained and Mary Mathews generously donated the proceeds of the luncheon to the library.

Wednesday's "Evening at the Library" attracted another capacity crowd. In addition to library patrons, others came to enjoy the music of the York River Community Orchestra String Ensemble and to sample international coffees and cheescake.

The library staff is looking forward to the Yorktown Day holiday for a little rest and recuperation and a chance to watch someone else celebrate before our final special event. Saturday was kid's day, with an"Afternoon in Camelot" for children of all ages with songs, refreshments, costumes, skits, and demonstsrations of medieval life.

Then it's "back to normal," but normal is never going to be the same as it used to be at the library.

Patrons flocking to library

by Virginia Gabriele
York Town Crier

YORKTOWN – The Pied Piper seems to be luring people to York County's new library on Route 17 at Harrods Lane.

In the two months that the new building has been open, the library has registered 1,036 new members, according to librarian Beverly Dudley. Previously, 200 new members in a month was considered high.

Book circulation is up too, 1,500 volumes above October 1983, even though it was expected to decrease because the checkout period was doubled from two weeks to four.

Mrs. Dudley said people are also spending more time in the new facility -- to read, study and research -- rather than just checking out books as they did in the old storefront library in Grafton.

Mrs. Dudley said the staff didn't know what kind of reception to expect when the new building opened, and many were worried that the library had moved too far north in the county. The library probably lost some of its patrons from the southern part of the county, according to Mrs. Dudley, but it is picking up new patrons in nearby areas of Edgehill, Marlbank, Seaford and also Gloucester County.

"I look on it with pleasure -- I'm overjoyed," said Mrs. Dudley, "but the staff is in the trenches and is not thrilled. They haven't been given the additional staff they thought they were going to get."

Mrs. Dudley and the library board of trustees are still trying to secure commitments for additional staff from the county board of supervisors.





Library to hold 'bear party'

YORKTOWN – Children's Book Week is Nov. 12-18, and to celebrate, the York County Public Library is having a "bear party" for children ages 5-10.

The "beary big" event will begin at 1pm Saturday, Nov. 17, at the library. Each child is asked to bring a favorite stuffed bear for show-and-tell.

There also will be movies, refreshments provided by story-hour mothers, and a door prize.

"The morning will be unbearable without you," says the library staff. Call 898-0077 for information.

DAILY PRESS 11/14/84

'Beary big' event

The York County Public Library is celebrating Children's Book Week with a "Bear Party" for children ages 5-10. The "beary big" event will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday at the library. Each child is asked to bring a favorite stuffed bear for Show and Tell. There will also be movies, refreshments from the story hour mothers, and a door prize. Call 898-0077 for more information.

Librarians plead for more help

by Christine Evans
York Town Crier

YORKTOWN -- The staff of York County's new public library claims it is "understaffed and underpaid," yet a county consultant argues "the library can get along with its present staff."

Tonight (Thursday) the board of supervisors will consider the validity of the librarians' claim three days after the consultants reported "the York County pay and classification plan is basically sound."

At a board work session Monday, consultants Tom Donahue and George Hublen of Public Administration Service in McLean, Va., said they could find few significant problems during the three-month, $29,900 study.

Donahue described it as a follow-up to one made seven years ago by his company.

If there are no major changes, he said, this one should be good for close to 10 years.

Supervisor Ben Rush said the board ordered the study to get comparable pay and classification data so that, for instance, when employees move from constitutional officers' employ into comparable county positions ,the board knows how much to pay them.

Donahue reassured Rush there are comparable salary scales and job descriptions available to do that now.

The spring survey of 75 percent of county employees revealed, he said, that benefits, salaries and staffing levels are "in line or slightly above comparable areas."

County library staff and library trustees beg to differ. Tonight they will ask board action to remedy "a serious problem of understaffing."

A move from a Grafton storefront to a new, much larger facility at Harrod Lane this month has increased library use and overstrained staff resources, they say.

The present staff of 8.75, they say, is "unable to provide even the same level of service they did at the old facility."

Morale has been so bad at the modern facility, the board of trustees decided to seek supervisor support in resolving the problems.

In a letter to the board, they review options, but support the staffing proposal made by library director Beverly Dudley during FY 1985 budget discussions with county staff.

Based on state library minimum staffing standards, the county library is entitled to 12 full-time employees.

Willing to keep expense to a minimum, Mrs. Dudley recomended "11 would be comfortable," and said the remaining position could be filled with volunteer help.

County Administrator John M. Richardson has already allowed some additional staff on the recommendation of the consultants, who advised the staff be enlarged to its current level of 8.75 people, based on book circulation data and memberships.

They also recommended salary hikes and job title changes.

The cost of the librarian's proposal would be $44,164 annually; the consultants' plan, $21,688.

The consultants' plan does not allow for hiring a children's librarian, as recommended by the library staff, for another three to five years.

The staff plan argues if an additional person is hired, opening for two additional hours on Saturday would be possible.

Without that extra staff member, regular personnel cannot be given compensatory time for extra hours worked. The skeleton staff does not allow enough flexibility.

Though librarians gave time in the past on the understanding that when the new library opened it would be adequately staffed, they are not willing to give their time any more, the librarian said.

Additional floor space, reorganization and expansion of services, and intensified use have further strained the staff.

Without additional help, library operating hours will be cut back from the present 59 hours weekly, the trustees say.

Librarians are also unhappy about pay scales. They argue the library staff probably has more education and the lowest average pay of any department in the county.

Further resentment built up following the circulation of a draft consultants' pay proposal that would have given personnel in some departments, including the library, scale range increases of $2,000 to $5,000. They were cut back in the final proposal published in August.

Monday Donahue dismissed the plan as one not requested by the supervisors, and recommended by him as a "keep-cost" alternative allowing flexibility by moving salaries within a scale.

He said the idea was recommended to Richardson as a "supposal," and county staff vetoed it.

"We were very disappointed with the pay scales," Mrs. Dudley said this week. "We are underpaid and understaffed. The library is at the bottom of the barrel generally. County libraries are traditionally not very progressive or their staffs well-trained. We are trying to become professional." She argued the library is more comparable with a city library than a county one.

Library staff salaries range from the minimum wage of $2.75 an hour paid to high school pages to the director's $21,656, raised from $20,625 as a result of the study.

But an example of the lack of "rhyme or reason" noted by Supervisor Julia Jensen in the study is obvious in the case of an office assistant I. Two people with a 9D rating would earn $9,921 in the library, $10,938 in the planning department.

A review of job descriptions, Mrs. Jensen said, had convinced her the plan had little value in helping employees discern skills they needed to acquire to advance in county employment.

The only differences between jobs was apparently the range of adjectives used to describe them.

Though it is seven years since the last study was done, "this latest one was basically an update of the earlier effort," the consulants said.

Though complimentary of the work of Personnel Director Peter Ianni, they foresaw some future problems.

They cautioned problems with "internal equity" could arise. Given a choice of in-house equality in pay or comparison with other employers, they said "internal equity is more important devastating

Thursday, Oct. 18, 1984

we do not have 8.75 people
we have 6.75.

Crier 11/21/84

Board may slash library hours 32%

by Virginia Gabriele
York Town Crier

YORKTOWN -- If York County can't hire two more people to relieve the overworked staff at the new county library, then library hours will have to be cut by 32 percent.

That's the message the library board of trustees and library director Beverly Dudley brought to County Administrator John Richardson in a meeting Nov. 14.

"It's the only logical thing we can do," said Diane Holland, vice-chairman of the trustees, this week about plans to reduce the library's operating hours from 59 to 40 a week. "But we're hoping we won't have to do it."

"In order to provide adequate service," the library needs either more people or fewer hours, said Mrs. Dudley, explaining the staff is now donating its time for the four hours the library is open on Saturdays. "They're working for compensatory time and they're not able to take it."

The library officials are hoping Richardson will make a favorable recommendation to the board of supervisors in December.

Richardson, however, says he has to do some research into library needs before he makes a decision. "I haven't made up my mind," he said this week.

Mrs. Dudley has been seeking additional staff for the new library since budget discussions last spring. She was allotted an additional half-time person (a reference librarian) and was told to wait for a countywide pay and classification study to be completed before other staffing decisions are made.

That study, by Public Administration Service of McLean, Va., is now under review by the county, but it recommends no more than the library's current staff of 6.75 people.

The state library recommends a staff of 12 for a library the size of York's. Mrs. Dudley had requested a staff of 11.

Although employees gave extra time at the old storefront library in Grafton, they have been unhappy with the increased workload since the new library opened in September. New memberships have more than doubled, circulation has climbed and people are spending more time in the library.

"It's a beautiful place," said one staffer, "but it's so frustrating never to catch up with my work."

"People keep asking why we're not open Sundays," said another staffer. "They're lucky to have what they do. If everyone took the comp time they're entitled to, they'd have to close the library for three weeks."

Trustees Chairman Elizabeth Rogers said the trustees had to discuss the option of cutting hours because the staff can't continue working beyond the time it is paid for.

Although the trustees didn't vote at their Nov. 13 meeting, they did reach a consensus that without additional staff, hours would have to be cut to continue providing quality service.

Mrs. Dudley said she wants to hire a circulation librarian, make the reference librarian a full-time position and hire a half-time clerk.

The trustees submitted a letter to the supervisors in October seeking additional staff. The matter was discussed briefly, with Chairman Rodgers Smith acknowledging that something should be done. But no action was taken.

11/30

Don't step backward

Editorial

Now that York County finally has an attractive and spacious new public library, it is indeed distressing to hear that the library board is considering cutting its hours of operation by one-third.

If the new facility is a step forward for York citizens, such a drastic reduction in the level of service would be two steps backward. Instead of cutting hours, we need to be moving in exactly the opposite direction -- for instance, expanding the library's now limited weekend schedule (only a few hours on Saturday and none on Sunday) to better accommodate users who are busy during the week.

We don't fault the library board members. They find themselves in the unenviable position of trying to run a much larger facility, which is attracting significantly more use, with the same-size staff that manned the old storefront library. Given those conditions, they have little alternative.

The only other way out, the board believes, is to hire more staff. It is not an unreasonable request. The current staffing level of 6.75 positions is just barely more than half what is recommended by state guidelines for a library the size of York's, and a consultant who recently studied York County's total personnel picture recommended an increase for the library.

Is it unrealistic to suggest that a county that operates public works and utilities, fire and rescue, and sheriff's departments with annual budgets approaching $1 million *each* could afford to spend more than $67,000 a year on its library?

We hope the county administration and board of supervisors will examine their priorities and give serious consideration to the library board's request.

--W.S.

York may add 5 slots

By RAY BETZNER
Staff Writer

YORK — The county Board of Supervisors will consider adding five new employee positions for the library and the real-estate department when the board meets at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Courts and Office Center.

Librarian Beverly Dudley said there has been a considerable increase in the demand for service since the library moved to its new home on Route 17 in early October.

"We normally add 200 new (membership) cards a month. We've been averaging 500 a month since the move," Mrs. Dudley said.

"We need these people just to continue doing what we're doing now," she said.

She is asking that a half-time library assistant be made a full-time assistant, that a new assistant be hired and that a half-time library clerk be added to the staff. Full-year salaries for all three positions will total about $25,000.

Even with the additions, Mrs. Dudley said the library still will be without a children's librarian and Sunday office hours. She wants to add both to the library and plans to ask supervisors later in the budget process to fund them.

In the real estate department

The Times-Herald Dec. 7, 1984

Also Thursday, board members approved two appraisers and an administrative assistant for the new county Real Estate Department. Supervisor Benjamin M. Rush Jr. gave the only dissenting vote. New staff members were approved for the York County Library. One library assistant was switched from half-time to full-time. One full-time assistant and one half-time staff member were added.

Many groups plan Christmas festivities

GRAFTON – A Christmas craft workshop and party for children 5 to 10 will be held at the York County Public Library Saturday, Dec. 17, at 2pm, sponsored by the Friends of the Library in cooperation with On-the-Hill, Yorktown's creative arts center.

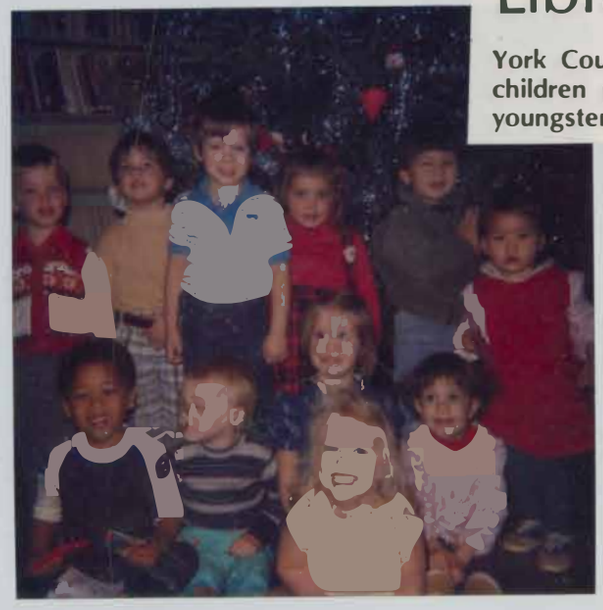
The children will make sugarplum trees. All craft materials will be provided free. A short movie, "The Tiny Tree," will be shown at 2:30, after the craft session, and refreshments will be served.

There will be a limited enrollment for the craft workshop. Children must be registered in advance for both the workshop and the party. Call the library at 898-0077 to register.



Library Christmas party

York County's public library in Grafton held a Christmas party for children participating in the Wednesday story hour program. The youngsters are all smiles after a story and special Christmas treats.



CRIER 1/13/84

Library brochure helps fight drunk driving

YORKTOWN – Want to have an impact on the drunk driving problem? There's help at the York County Public Library.

A brochure, "A Citizen Activist Guide to Fight Drunk Driving," is available at the library from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The guide provides "how-to" information to help in organizing task forces to study the drunk-driving problem and establish preventive programs. It sets out a step-by-step method of investigating a community's existing system for dealing with drunk drivers, and includes suggestions on strategy, how to finance a program for controlling drunk drivers, how to draw public attention to the subject, and how to lobby for change.

Statistics indicate that at least 55 percent of all fatal traffic collisions are alcohol-related, and 650,000 people will be seriously injured by drunk drivers in the United States during this year alone. Most experts agree the problem is most effectively handled at the state and local levels, where citizens can make a difference if they know how to proceed.

The guide is available during regular library hours: 10am-9pm Monday through Friday, and 10am-2pm Saturday.

Elderhostel offers adventure for elderly

If you're 60 or older and have a taste for new experiences, York County Public Library has just the thing to help launch you on an exciting adventure.

It's the Elderhostel catalog with more than 125 pages of educational programs for older adults that take place on the campuses of colleges, universities and other educational centers in the United States, Canada and around the world.

Elderhostel is a non-profit educational organization composed of a network of more than 700 worldwide campuses. Participating schools design and host Elderhostel programs of one or more weeks in length. The attendees live in campus dormitories, eat in the cafeteries, use the school library and take up to three challenging non-credit courses on a variety of liberal arts subjects taught by the institution's faculty. The cost of these programs is modest. More than 70,000 people participated in 1983.

Anyone wishing to learn more about Elderhostel is encouraged to study the catalog. Elderhostel registration forms are also available.

York County Public Library is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

DAILY PRESS

Tax forms at library

Federal tax forms are available in the York County Public Library in the Grafton Shopping Center, and state forms will be arriving soon.

Standard 1040, 1040A and 1040EZ forms are on hand, and other schedules and forms may be copied at the library from an Internal Revenue Service book of reproducible tax forms as an aid to taxpayers.

Three volumes of IRS tax information are also available at the library.

1/25/84

Library card renewals

Yorktown Crier 1/26/84

GRAFTON – York County Public Library patrons will get their library cards renewed as materials are checked out now through the end of February.

Cards are renewed after librarians check current addresses and phone numbers and whether there are outstanding fines or long overdue books.

After March 1, only renewed cards may be used to check out materials.

Library cards

1/24/84

York County Public Library patrons will get renewed library cards as they check out materials through the end of February.

The cards will be renewed after the library staff checks current addresses and telephone numbers and whether there are outstanding fines or long overdue books.

After March 1, only renewed cards may be used to check out materials.

York Town Crier 12-12-84

Library computer class

YORKTOWN -- The York County public library will hold its first computer orientation session at the library Monday, Dec. 17, 7:30pm, to enable patrons to use the Apple IIe computer donated for public use by the Friends of the Library.

York's new library is on Route 17 at Harrod Lane.

Anyone in the sixth grade or older may use the computer after completing an orientation session or after presenting certification of computer-readiness from an instructor. Children under the sixth-grade level may use the computer with an adult who has had the orientation session.

Some software programs are available at the library, including Apple Works (word processing), SAT Tutorial, Typing Tutor, Speedreading and Storymaker (for children). Patrons may bring their own games or software and should bring their own blank disks.

Reservations for time on the computer are being taken for up to three hours at a time. Call the library, 898-0077, to register or for more information.















Christmas 1984